



## Phonics

*"To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark."*  
(Victor Hugo)

### What is phonics?

Systematic synthetic phonics is a method of teaching reading and writing where children are systematically taught the relationships between the sounds and the letters used to represent those sounds. Once children have been taught which sounds are linked to which letters, they are able to 'crack the code' and can confidently have a go at reading and writing. These are key skills in supporting our pupils to achieve in school and wider society and to nurture a continued love of reading.

### Intent:

At The Saints Federation we aim to deliver high quality phonic teaching which secures the crucial skills of sound and word recognition. Once mastered, these skills enable children to read fluently and automatically giving them room to focus on the meaning of the text and further development of pleasure in reading. We aim to establish consistent practise, progression and continuity in the teaching and learning of phonics and spelling throughout the federation. We do this through responsive teaching, assessment, good subject knowledge and pedagogy so that the curriculum is rich and varied to appeal to all learners. Additionally, children are taught word strategies that will enable them to become fluent readers and confident writers thus developing their independence.

### Spiritual Development

We encourage our children to think about the opportunities reading and writing bring. We remind them that if you can read you can do anything.

### Implementation:

Phonics lessons are structured using the Revisit, Teach, Practise, Apply approach. Lessons: are active and engaging and have a systematic, quick pace; give every child the chance to segment and blend repeatedly; give the children opportunities to hear themselves saying new sounds; teach one new thing each day e.g. either through new phoneme, segmenting, blending, reading or writing; encourage children to write more quickly, yet accurately using lead in strokes when appropriate. Lessons take place every day in KS1 (and as appropriate in KS2 or as an intervention) using Bug Club phonics and are supplemented with high frequency and tricky word phases. As children progress, emphasis is duly given to the National Curriculum spelling and grammar expectations. Experienced staff create bespoke sessions to meet the needs of all learners.

### Impact:



We will ensure that all children are exposed to quality first teaching so that they can build on previous phase knowledge which they will continue to use across the curriculum. Pupils will become independent learners and develop a continued love of reading in all year groups. Through growing knowledge and skills, children will be able to master reading, writing and spoken language and take these key skills into all areas of life.