

# Phonics

Research	Intent	Implementation
<p>'The foundations for competent reading and writing are laid down from the age of three to seven. We know the importance of children developing their vocabulary, listening both to what others say and mean, and to the sounds of words. We know how to teach the recognition of letters and the association of sounds with letters and combinations of letters to decode and spell words.' – Christine Gilbert HMI 2010</p>	<p>At Southwick School, we are passionate about ensuring that all of our children become confident, enthusiastic, fluent readers. We believe that the development of early reading skills allows our children to learn and grow within our curriculum</p> <p>Phonics is a key strategy that supports the development of early reading skills. It provides the early foundations needed for reading which enables children to become competent readers and writers as it provides them with skills needed to decode words and gain the fluency needed to understand what they have read.</p> <p>.</p>	<p>At Southwick School, our phonics programme is delivered using 'Sounds Write', a method of learning letter sounds and blending them together to read and write words.</p> <p>Children work through the initial and extended code, learning and developing their phonemic knowledge in the process.</p> <p>Children have daily phonics lessons planned using the Sounds Write programme, which are matched to their developing needs. Teachers draw upon observations and continuous assessment to ensure children are stretched and challenged and to identify children who may need additional support, for whom additional phonics sessions are put into place.</p> <p>The children's phonemic knowledge is supported through the use of closely matched texts which the children take home to share with their parents.</p>