



Useful Information For Parents 2023-2024



What is Read Write Inc?

Read Write Inc. (RWI) is a phonics based programme which helps children learn to read whilst also developing a wide range of vocabulary and encouraging a love of stories.

Who is Read Write Inc. for?

The Read Write Inc. programme is for primary school children learning to read. Children will begin the programme in Reception and will remain on programme until they are reading at the expected National Curriculum level for Year 2.

What does the RWI teaching process look like?

Phonics is a highly effective way of teaching reading and spelling. Children are first taught the pure 'Set One sounds' so that they will be able to blend sounds in words more easily. In School we call this 'Fred Talk'. We do not use letter names at this stage; we simply focus on letter sounds that are used to sound out words. At this stage, the children are not only taught the 'sound' the letter makes, but also how to form the letter, using a rhyme and picture prompt.

Learning the terminology

Phoneme- A phoneme is simply a letter sound e.g. 'm' or 'sh'

Grapheme- A grapheme is simply a sound in written form

Blending (Fred Talk)- This is when a number of sounds are read aloud, repeated and pushed together orally, to make a word.

Segmenting- This is when we say a word aloud and then say the sounds that we can hear on our "Fred Fingers," in order to spell the word.

Some examples

i-n contains 2 phonemes and 2 graphemes.

c-a-t contains 3 phonemes and 3 graphemes

ch-a-t contains 3 phonemes and 3 graphemes

c-r-a-sh contains 4 phonemes and 4 graphemes

Each word always contains the same number of phonemes and graphemes.

Phoneme Information

We teach the children **Set One** phonemes in the following order:

m/ a/ s/ d/ t/ i/ n/ p/ g/ o/ c/ k/ u/ b/ f/ e/ l/ h/ sh/ r/ j/ v/ y/ w/ th/ z/ ch/ qu/ x/ ng/ nk

Sounds in their purest form

It is vitally important that phonemes are pronounced correctly, in order for children to be able to blend sounds together successfully. To do this we need to say the shortest sound you can without an 'uh'. e.g. d-d-d not duh or f-f-f not fuh.

To view correct pronunciation of the sounds, follow the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkXcabDUg7Q>

Once the children are secure with all Set One phonemes, they will progress on to learning Set Two sounds (usually towards the end of Reception) and then Set Three sounds in Year One.

Set Two sounds: ay/ ee/ igh/ ow/ oo/ oo/ ar/ or/ air/ ir/ ou/ oy

Set Three sounds: ea/ oi/ a_e/ e_e/ i_e/ o_e/ u_e/ aw/ are/ ur/ er/ ow/ ai/ oa/ ew/ ire/ ear/ ure

Green Words

Once children have learnt a series of phonemes, they will begin to blend them together to read a word. We call this using our "Fred Talk". We call words that we can sound out using our Fred talk **green words**.

e.g. c-a-t = cat p-i-n = pin sh-i-p = ship p-l-ay = play

Red Words

We are not able to "Fred Talk" these words and so they are classed as irregular tricky "**red words**". We encourage the children to identify the "tricky part" in the word. For example the word **was**, the tricky bit is the **a** grapheme because it sounds like it should be an **o**. They will have to learn to recognise, read and spell these words by sight. They cannot be sounded out using any sort of phonics strategy. e.g. **I my to was she some said**

Read, Write, Inc. Reading Books

Once the children have learnt a number of sounds they will progress on to read lively stories featuring words they have learned to sound out (Fred talk). This will also include meaningful discussion led by an adult, in order for the children to show that they comprehend the stories by answering questions.

<i>A typical route of progression through Read, Write Inc. Reading Books</i>		
<i>Book Colour</i>	<i>Reading Stage</i>	<i>Year Group</i>
<i>Black Story Books</i>	<i>Pre-reading level- no words</i>	<i>Reception</i>
<i>Lilac Sound blending Books</i>	<i>Learning to blend sounds in single cvc words</i>	
<i>Red Ditty Books</i>	<i>Ditty Level</i>	
<i>Green Story Books</i>	<i>Stage 1</i>	<i>Reception/ Year One</i>
<i>Purple Story Books</i>	<i>Stage 2</i>	<i>Year One</i>
<i>Pink Story Books</i>	<i>Stage 3</i>	
<i>Orange Story Books</i>	<i>Stage 4</i>	
<i>Yellow Books</i>	<i>Stage 5</i>	<i>Year One/ Year 2</i>
<i>Blue Books</i>	<i>Stage 6</i>	<i>Year Two</i>
<i>Grey Books</i>	<i>Stage 7</i>	

Year One Statutory Phonics Screening Check

The Read, Write, Inc. Programme prepares children very well for the Phonics Screening Check. Your child will sit the Government Statutory Phonics Screening check in the Summer term of Year One. This usually takes place within the first 2 weeks of June. The phonics screening check assesses children on how well they can decode (Fred talk) certain words. Decoding means sounding out an unfamiliar written word. To do this, children will need to be able to recognise letters and the sounds that they represent. This is an important part of achieving reading fluency!

During the check, children will be asked to decode a series of 40 different words. While most of these will be real words, there will also be some pseudo-words mixed in. These are sometimes known as alien words, and they will be accompanied by an image of an alien to help children identify them. These words are phonetically similar to real words, but don't have any meaning. They're included in the check so that children will need to use their decoding skills and won't be able to rely on memory and sight alone.

How can I help my child at home?

- Have fun with Fred Talk at home e.g. Where is your c_oa_t? Time for b_e_d!
- Get your child to practise their sounds daily from their RWI Sound Book.
- Establish a routine to include reading regularly throughout the day and the week.
- Encourage your child to 'Fred Talk' or 'sound out' any unfamiliar words
- Recognise 'red words' together – remember 'you can't Fred a red!'
- Use the 'Questions for Reading' to help deepen understanding of the books you read together.



If you have any questions at all about the Read Write Inc. programme, we are more than happy to answer your queries. Please do come and ask us!

Useful Links:

Official RWI Ruth Miskin Website-Lots of videos and useful information for parents.

<https://www.ruthmiskin.com/parentsandcarers/>

Oxford Owl- Useful Information and RWI resources. You will need to create a free account before you can access content.

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/>

Oxford Owl- Free RWI e-books to read online

https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/library-page?view=image&query=&type=book&age_group=&level=&level_select=&book_type=&series=Read+Write+Inc.#