



**St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School,  
Upminster**

## **Phonics teaching 2014**

In our school we use 'Jolly Phonics' phonics actions to teach the 'Letters and Sounds' programme, teaching it daily to the children from Reception, throughout the infants.

For an overview, please visit:

<http://jollylearning.co.uk/overview-about-jolly-phonics/>

and:

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>

Here are the essential aspects of phonics:

### **What is Jolly Phonics?**

Jolly Phonics is a fun and child-centred approach to teaching literacy through synthetic phonics. With actions for each of the 42 letter sounds, the multi-sensory method is very motivating for children and teachers, who can see their children achieve. The letter sounds are split into seven groups as shown below.

### **Letter Sound Order**

The sounds are taught in a specific order (not alphabetically). This enables children to begin building words as early as possible.

- 1 . s, a, t, i, p, n
- 2 . c k, e, h, r, m, d
- 3 . g, o, u, l, f, b
- 4 . ai, j, oa, ie, ee, or
- 5 . z, w, ng, v, oo, oo
- 6 . y, x, ch, sh, th, th
- 7 . qu, ou, oi, ue, er, ar

## **How does Jolly Phonics work?**

Using a synthetic phonics approach, Jolly Phonics teaches children the five key skills for reading and writing. The programme continues through school enabling the teaching of essential grammar, spelling and punctuation skills.

## **The five skills taught in Jolly Phonics:**

### **1.Learning the letter sounds**

Children are taught the 42 main letter sounds. This includes alphabet sounds as well as digraphs such as sh, th, ai and ue.

### **2.Learning letter formation**

Using different multi-sensory methods, children learn how to form and write the letters.

### **3.Blending**

Children are taught how to blend the sounds together to read and write new words.

### **4.Identifying the sounds in words (Segmenting)**

Listening for the sounds in words gives children the best start for improving spelling.

### **5.Tricky words**

Tricky words have irregular spellings and children learn these separately.

For a guide as to how to pronounce the sounds, please visit the following website:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ksblMiliA8&safe=active>

The children's learning of each of the sounds is tracked by the teacher from Reception throughout the infants. In June in Year 1 all the children are tested individually across the country and these results are reported as a 'pass' or 'fail' to parents at the end of Year 1. Children who have not reached the required standard receive additional teaching through Year 2, and if necessary, Year 3.

Parents can support their child's phonics learning by watching the above clips on-line and ensuring that each letter 'sound' is made correctly. At school we provide further guidance to parents through different means. Should a parent have any questions, they should approach their child's teacher in the first instance.

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