



# EYFS Phonics and High Frequency Words Guidance and Resource Handbook



Name:

## How we teach children to read...

### At Elloughton School we teach children to read through:

- **Phonics Teaching-** There has been a huge shift in the past few years in how we teach reading in UK schools. This is having a big impact and helping many children learn to read and spell. Phonics is recommended as the first strategy that children should be taught in helping them to learn to read. It runs alongside other teaching methods such as Guided Reading and Shared Reading to help children develop their reading skills and hopefully give them a real love of reading.
- **Guided reading sessions-** this involves the teacher, each day, working specifically with one small group of children and focusing on their learning objectives for reading. This is where we teach children how to read. We believe this is a very effective way of teaching reading.
- **Within Literacy tasks-** this involves working with specific text looking at the text as a whole, sentences and specific words within the text is closely linked with writing tasks.
- **Within every activity-** there are always opportunities for reading in every activity, for example within the role play areas, instructions for making their own playdough. This gives children the opportunity to re-enforce their reading skills.
- **Individual reading-** this involves an adult (not necessarily the teacher) sitting quietly and reading with one child, sharing their individual reading book and practising their reading skills. Although we recognise this is an important way of learning to read it is not the most effective way for a class teacher to work, (this is due to time elements and the number of children in class).

### You can help with individual reading

- We ask that parents to read the school reading book with their child at home every day. We will also send home high frequency words (words which occur most frequently in written materials) for your child to recognise and spell together with the individual phonemes as printed in this booklet. Please check these words and phonemes (the smallest unit of sound in speech) on a regular basis with your child at home.
- Please use the reading record to add comments about how your child read the book or whether they enjoyed it. Please record page numbers to indicate how much of the book your child has read.

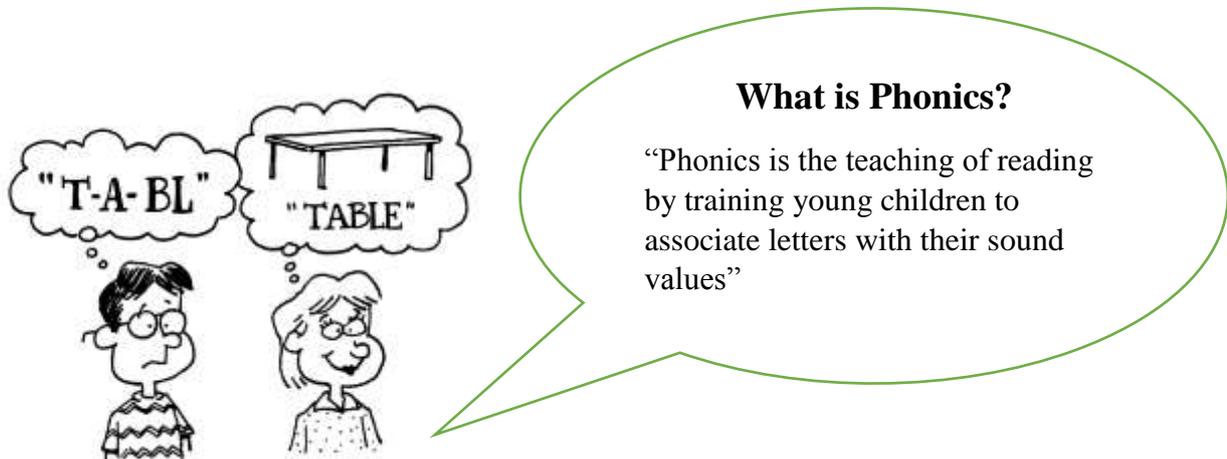
## Being a letter detective

Learning to read is a bit like being a detective. You use the sound clues to help to work out the 'new' word.



- Some children can learn whole words by just looking at them and remembering them.
- However, most children need to break (segment) unfamiliar words into bits, called phonemes or letter sounds.
- They sound the bits out (segment) and put them back together (blend) until they know them.

**“Phonics is the step up to word recognition. Automatic reading of all words – decodable and tricky – is the ultimate goal.”**



Phonics is where words are made up from small units of sounds called phonemes. Phonics teaches children to be able to listen carefully to identify the phoneme that make up each word. This helps children to learn to read words and to spell words.

In phonic lessons children are taught three main things:

- **GPCs**-this stands for Grapheme Phoneme Correspondences. This simply means that they are taught all the phonemes in the English language and ways of writing them down. These sounds are taught in a particular order. The first sounds to be taught are s, a, t, p.
- **Blending**- Children are taught to blend. This is when children say the sounds that make up a word and are able to merge the sounds together until they can hear what the word is. This skill is vital in learning to read.
- **Segmenting**- Children are also taught to segment. This is the opposite of blending. Children are able to say a word and then break it up into the phonemes that make it up. This skill is vital in being able to spell words e.g bed= /b/ /e/ /d/

