

Phonics at Rivermead

A core value at Rivermead is to embed a positive culture of reading whereby children understand the importance and a love of reading. We believe that developing positive attitudes towards reading as well as enhancing reading skills plays a key role in the children's development and is a tool for them to become confident life-long learners.

We teach children to read using a systematic synthetic phonics programme called Read Write Inc, designed by Ruth Miskin. *The Read Write Inc.* programme works because we get children's brain 'cogs' working, everything connects: children connect sounds with mnemonic pictures; words with their meanings; and stories with the sounds they know. Children are grouped based on their phonetic knowledge to ensure the teaching is at the right level for them.

During Read Write Inc lessons children will:

- Learn 75 sounds using simple picture prompts.
- Learn to read words using Fred talk and Fred in your head (silent blending).
- Read from a range of storybooks and non-fiction books matched to their phonic knowledge
- Develop comprehension skills in stories by answering and discussion questions
- Learn to spell words using a method called 'Fred Fingers' whereby children break a word up into the sounds they can hear.
- Learn to write sentences using oral rehearsal before during and after writing.

At the start of Foundation, your child begins accessing the Read Write Inc phonics programme from the second day they are in school. Once your child has started to confidently recognise the sounds they will bring home a Read Write Inc sound blending book which reinforces the sounds your child has been taught in their phonics sessions. Your child should be able to apply their blending skills when they are practising to read these sound blending books at home. This book will be changed once your child has read this book at least three times. It is important for your child to read a book several times to build their confidence and fluency.



As your child moves through the Read Write Inc programme the books become more challenging. They will bring home two phonics books a week. The first book will be a paper copy, this a book they have read in class at least three times. It is a chance for your child to showcase what they have learnt during the week by reading the book to you. This book will help your child to develop their fluency and build on their comprehension. The second phonics book bag book will be thematically linked to the book they have been reading in their phonics sessions. This book is a chance for them to practise decoding, blending and reading the red tricky words. This book will be changed once a week alongside their phonics book they have read in class.

If you would like to find out more information on Read Write Inc phonics and how it is taught please visit the Ruth Miskin website <https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/> . We recommend to watch the videos titled **'Introduction to daily Read Write Inc phonics lessons'**, **'Parent video how to say the sounds'** and **'what is Read Write Inc phonics'**. To view the different videos please, click on the icon of the top right hand corner and you will see the playlist of videos.