

St. Hugh's Catholic Primary School

Your child is learning to read with Read, Write Inc. Phonics.

Your child will learn to read in a very simple way. He or she will learn to:

- Read letters by their sounds
- Blend these sounds into words
- Read the words in a story



How will my child learn to read?

First, your child will learn to read:

- Set 1 Speed Sounds: **m a s d t l n p g o c k u b f e l h r j v y w z x** and sounds written with 2 letters (your child will call these 'special friends'): **sh th ch q u ng nk ck**
- Words containing these sounds, by sound-blending e.g. m-a-t *mat*, g-o-t *got*, f-i-sh *fish*
- **Red**, **Green** and **Purple** storybooks

Second, he or she will learn to read:

- Set 2 Speed Sounds: **ay ee igh ow oo o oar or air ir ou oy**
- Words containing these sounds
- **Pink**, **Orange** and **Yellow** storybooks

Third, he or she will learn to read:

- Set 3 Speed Sounds: **ea oi a-e i-e o-e u-e aw are ur ow ai oa ew ire ear ure**
- Words containing these sounds
- **Blue** and **Grey** Storybooks

Your child will be taught to say the sound for the letter and not the letter name.

Once your child can read Set 1 Speed Sounds confidently, he or she can learn to read words. First, your child is introduced to a toy frog called Fred. Fred can only say the **sounds** in a word and needs your child to help him read the word. So, when you hear your child say 'Fred Talk', you'll know this means sounding out the word.

How to listen to your child read

- Ask your child to read the sounds and words at the front of the book before he or she reads the story.
- When your child reads the story, ask him or her to sound out the words that he or she can't read automatically. Don't allow your child to struggle too much. Praise your child when he or she succeeds.
- Do not ask your child to guess the word by using the pictures.
- Read the story to your child after he or she has finished. Read it in a 'storyteller's' voice.
- Make it fun!

We have storytime every day in school so children develop a love of stories. We hope you will do the same by reading a bedtime story to your child every night.

If you would like to borrow a book from school to read to your child at bedtime, please ask your child's teacher.

Glossary

Fred Talk – sounding out the word before reading (blending)

sound-blending – putting sounds together to make a word, e.g. c-a-t *cat*

special friends – sounds written with more than one letter, **sh, ng, qu, ch**

Speed Sounds – the individual sounds that make up words