



Bramcote C of E Phonics Curriculum

Intent:

At Bramcote CofE Primary School, we value reading as a key life skill and are dedicated to enabling our children to become lifelong readers. We recognise that mastery in phonics is fundamental to children being able to access a broad range of fiction and non-fiction texts across the curriculum. We aim to achieve this through:

- Use of a high-quality, systematic, synthetic phonics programme (Bug Club Phonics), followed with rigour and fidelity.
- A systematic approach to the teaching of phonics from entry to school, with the expectation that pupils will be fluent readers by the end of Key Stage One.
- Regular access to high quality phonic teaching which secures the crucial skills of word recognition that enables children to read fluently, freeing them to concentrate on the meaning of the text.
- Ensuring children have the cultural capital and experiences to become engrossed and immersed in reading.

Implementation:

Phonics at Bramcote CofE follows the Bug Club Phonics scheme. This allows our phonics teaching and learning to be progressive from Reception up to Year 2 as well as allowing children's speaking and listening skills to develop. Phonics is taught through whole-class teaching.

In Reception, Bug Club Phonics teaches new graphemes using high quality child-friendly videos and animations. Each session starts by daily revision of past teaching. The order of grapheme introduction ensures that children are able to start reading and spelling a wide range of words at the earliest possible stage, beginning with CVC words and simple tricky words, moving onto captions and finally short sentences. As the children move into Key Stage One, the same idea is developed upon, with a focus on learning alternative pronunciations for vowel phonemes, in phase 4 and 5. Once in Year 2, most children are ready for the demands of Phase 6 and is introduced to more complex, multi-syllabic words and morphemes such as prefixes and suffixes. For Phase 6 we use a mixture of Bug club and No-Nonsense Spelling.

Alongside the teaching of Phonics, frequent assessments are in place to monitor children who are at risk of falling behind. Once identified, the appropriate additional scaffolds or catch-up lessons are implemented in addition to continuing with the whole-class teaching sessions. All assessment data is collected on a data spreadsheet, for teachers to use for planning and guidance. Children have access to an online variety of books on the Bug Club website, as well as their hard copy reading books. Children are also able to access lessons they have learnt in school session to recap at home.

Impact:

The impact of using Bug Club Phonics as a systematic synthetic phonics programme, along with the earliest possible introduction of decodable reading books, enable children at Bramcote CofE to get off to the best possible start on their reading and developing the love for reading every child should have. They quickly develop the necessary skills to see themselves as 'readers' and apply their knowledge when beginning to spell and write sentences. We believe that reading is the key to all learning and so the impact of our phonics and reading teaching and learning is seen across all areas of the curriculum.

Spirituality

While phonics primarily focuses on developing foundational literacy skills, there is an indirect connection to spirituality as well. Phonics, through its engagement with language and communication, provides a tool for young learners to express and connect with their inner thoughts and feelings. As children decode words and begin to understand language structure, they gain the ability to communicate their experiences, beliefs and ideas more effectively. The process of learning to read and write fosters a sense of empowerment and self-expression, contributing to the holistic development of a child's identity, including their spiritual dimensions.