



How do we support the catch-up teaching and revision of Phonics at Tollgate?

We follow a systematic synthetic phonics approach at Tollgate, laid out by the DFE 2007 'Letters and Sounds' document, in which individual letters or letter sounds (phonemes) are blended to form groups of letters or sounds; those groups are then blended to form complete words. Grapheme (how the letter/word is written) phoneme (how it sounds) correspondence (GPC) is our focus, for children who have *significant* gaps in their reading and spelling from Key Stage 1. This approach compliments the teaching of Phonics from St Andrew's CE Infant school.

As a Junior School, the focus is on identifying gaps from KS1 and systematically addressing them, for the **individual child**, as opposed to whole classes. Therefore, we are not teaching Phonics lessons sequentially to every child, as you would see in Early Years and KS1. Instead, we are continuously using formative assessment to identify key gaps, which then inform our planning and intervention teaching. This allows us to provide tailored, specific intervention for individual children who have left Key Stage 1 with insecure knowledge of phonics.

The challenge when teaching phonics at Key Stage 2, is to use resources that are age-appropriate and are not viewed as repeating KS 1 lessons by the children. We therefore combine a range of resources including 'Phonics Play' and reading books provided by the DFE accredited scheme Twinkl, alongside planning by the phonics tutors. The focus on 'levels' within the Twinkl reading books have shown to be motivational for the children, coming away from 'phases' that they have already gone through at Key Stage 1. There are online resources accessible to all children at home, allowing for Phonics to be practised both in school and at home.

A Guide to Phonics from Twinkl

[t-l-526308-letters-and-sounds-phonics-parent-and-carer-information-guide-english-english_ver_1.pdf \(twinkl.co.uk\)](https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/phonics/phonics-parent-and-carer-information-guide-english-english-ver-1.pdf)

Some really useful videos, especially on modelling how to say and blend sounds accurately.

[Learn to read with phonics | Oxford Owl](#)

