

# Year One

## Phonics Screening Check

### What is the Phonics Screening Check?

Children in Year 1 throughout the country will all be taking part in a phonics screening check during the week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

Children in Year 2 will also take the check if they did not achieve the required result when in Year 1 or they have not taken the test before.

The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether individual children have learnt sufficient phonic decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard.

### What Happens During the Test?

The test contains 40 words. Each child will sit one to one with an adult and read each word aloud to a teacher. The test will take approximately 10 minutes per child, although it is not timed and children complete the check at their own pace. The list of words the children read is a combination of 20 real words and 20 pseudo words (nonsense words).

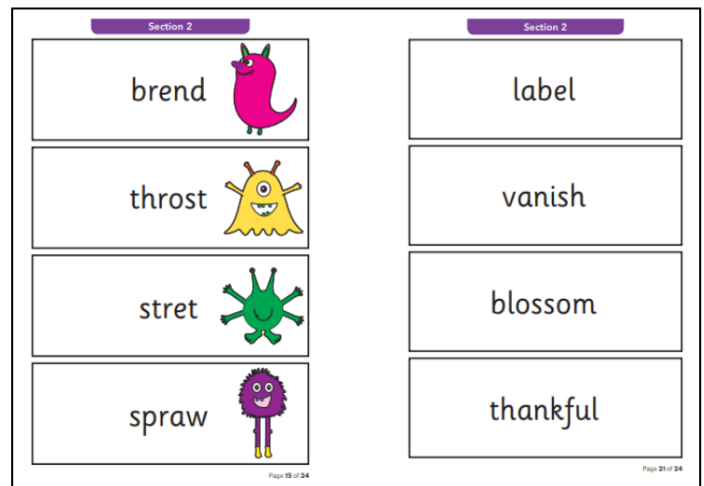
### Pseudo Words (Alien words)

The pseudo words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. This provides the children with a context for the pseudo word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have. Pseudo words are included because they will be new to all pupils; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary knowledge or visual memory of words.

### Reporting to Parents

On your child's end of year report we will confirm whether your child has passed the phonics screening check. Children who do not achieve the expected level will retake the test when they are in Year 2.

### An example of what the Phonics Screening Check looks like:



### How Can I Help My Child At Home?

- Play lots of sound and listening games with your child.
- Read as much as possible to and with your child.
- Encourage and praise – get them to have a 'good guess'.
- If your child is struggling to decode a word, help them by encouraging them to say each sound in the word from left to right.
- Blend the sounds by pointing to each letter, e.g. /c/ in cat, or the letter group, e.g. /ng in sing. Next move your finger under the whole word as you say it.
- Discuss the meaning of words if your child does not know what they have read.