

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Parental Questions and Answers

1. How many words to the children need to read on the test?

There are 40 words the children are required to read and they are made up of 'real' and 'nonsense' words.

2. Will there be a time limit on the test?

No, the children are encouraged to take their time. Teachers may stop the test if they feel the child needs a break.

3. Which sounds is my child expected to know?

Children are expected to know all the graphemes from Phase 2 to 5.

4. When does the check take place?

Schools will administer the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check the week beginning 10th June 2024.

5. How do children complete the phonics screening check?

*The checks consist of **40 words and non-words** that your child will be asked to read one-on-one with a teacher. The 40 words and non-words are divided into two sections – one with simple word structures of three or four letters, and one with more complex word structures of five or six letters. The teacher administering the check with your child will give them a few practice words to read first – including some non-words – so they understand more about what they have to do.*

6. How can I make sure my child isn't worrying about this?

We do lots of practise papers over the next few months, so the children do feel that this is just part of the Year 1 phonics routine. On the test itself, we don't let them know that it is any different than the practise papers they have already done. We usually give them some treats for taking part and as always, lots of positive reinforcement.

7. What if they don't pass it?

The children will receive further targeted intervention in Year 2 and they have another chance to sit the Phonics Screening Check again when they are in Year 2.

8. Where can I find out more information?

You can ask any of the Year 1 teachers for further information on your child's progress.

There are some useful links below –

Zat Phonics screening check - <https://zat-phonics-screening-check.soft112.com/>

Phonics Play – www.phonicsplay.co.uk

Letters and Sounds - www.lettersandsounds.com