



**GRETTON
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

Gretton
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL54 5EY
Telephone: 01242 602679

Headteacher: Mr Adam Sallis MEd, NASEN, NPQH

admin@gretton.gloucs.sch.uk
www.gretton.gloucs.sch.uk

7th May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you about the upcoming **Year 1 Phonics Screening Check**, which will take place on **Monday 9th June**.

The Phonics Screening Check is a statutory assessment designed to assess your child's ability to decode words using Phonics. Your child will be assessed for a mark out of 40, with a score of 32 out of 40 being the pass mark.

The Phonics Screening Check contains 40 words divided into two sections of 20 words. Both sections contain a mixture of real words and pseudo-words. Pseudo-words are designed to be decodable using sounds your child has learned but do not have any associated meaning. At school, we are already making headway to ensure your child is as fully prepared as possible for the assessment. This has included, but is not limited to, frequent revision Phonics lessons with the Little Wandle scheme, daily Reading Practice and termly assessments to gauge their understanding and progress.

We want to give your child every possible chance of success for the upcoming assessment and therefore we are sharing some additional materials and ideas you may wish to use to support your child at home. This is to be seen as an optional extra to the teaching of Phonics at school, which is designed and followed with fidelity to equip children with the reading knowledge required.

How you can support your child at home:

Here are a few simple ways to help your child prepare and feel confident:

- **Read regularly:** Spend time reading with your child using their reading book from school. Focus on sounding out words and blending the sounds together.
- **Access the parent support on Little Wandle:**
<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>
- **Focus on common sounds:** Practise digraphs (two letters, one sound such as 'sh', 'ch', 'ai') and trigraphs (three letters, one sound including 'igh' and 'ear') which often appear in the check.
- **Encourage sounding out:** If your child comes across a word they don't know, encourage them to break it into sounds rather than guessing.
- **Praise effort:** Confidence is key! Celebrate their progress and reassure them that it's okay to make mistakes while learning.

- **Practise with a past Phonics Screening Check paper:** Use past papers to help your child to get used to the format of the check. We will also be providing children the opportunity to access these at school.
- **Home Learning sheets:** Encourage your child to read the sounds, decodable words and tricky words on the Home Learning sheets in their folders. Some children have enjoyed writing the words out to help them remember.

We will continue to work through the relevant Phonics phases in school and give your child plenty of opportunities to practise in a supportive environment. Please keep an eye on Showbie as we will be posting helpful resources on there.

If you have any questions or would like additional resources to use at home, please don't hesitate to contact me or Miss Cross as the Phonics Lead.

Thank you, as always, for your support in your child's learning.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Perry