

Subject Leader Report: Phonics



'Our Vision is for every child to love learning, be compassionate and achieve now and in the future. Working together with our communities, we will give our children roots to grow and wings to fly.'

Our Aims in Phonics:

- At Portsdown we aim to ensure that every child leaves our school as a confident reader who reads not only to learn but for pleasure. Our school have chosen the SSP Little Wandle.
- The school works hard to consistently and rigorously implement Little Wandle. With support from the English Hub, phonics has been monitored closely ever term with learning walks and feedback given to staff on small tweaks that need to be made to make our phonics sessions even better.

Planning and Teaching:

- All resources for lessons are organised and used in each phonics lesson, with dedicated staff taking time to ensure these resources are maintained.
- Phonics sessions are daily in the EYFS and Year 1 with a small group of Year 2's still assessing the phonics lessons. In addition to this, Year 1 also teach a second daily phonics to facilitate the over practice which is key theme within the Little Wandle scheme.
- All lessons follow and use the Little Wandle resources and all adults are using the same phrases to reduce cognitive overload.
- Reading Practice:
- All Big Cat books have been organised, including gpc's, word cards and teacher guides in handy ready to go packs. This is to support the teaching of reading and allows teachers to spend less time looking for resources.
- All children in EYFS take part in 3 reading practice sessions a week with an adult.
- In Year 1 all children have 5 reading practice sessions a week while in Year 2 they have 3 reading practice reads a week.
- For those children in year 2 who have finished the phonics programme they move onto the LW Fluency programme which supports children with reading accurately and with speed.

Assessment

- Children are assessed every 5th week and catch up groups are planned and completed to help those children not keeping up.
- Year 1 Phonics Screening check result is 78%?.

Monitoring the Quality of Teaching and Learning

Targets for 2024-2025

- Fidelity to the scheme
- Strong start in Reception
- To build a team of experts
- Reach the lowest 20%

Targets for 2025-2026

- Reach the lowest 20%
- Use data to identify the lowest 20% and their gaps.
- Develop leaders' understanding of the SEND programme.