**Phonics Teaching at Tintwistle Primary**

At Tintwistle Primary School we follow the DfES ‘Letters and Sounds’ programme to get children off to a flying start with their literacy. ‘Letters and Sounds’ supports linking sounds and letters in the order in which they occur in words.

We begin in Nursery by teaching ‘Phase 1’. This is a creative phase which includes listening carefully to environmental and musical sounds, which then leads onto rhythm, rhyme and spoken words. This phase offers lots of opportunities to enrich children’s language across the seven areas of learning.

Children in Reception move onto ‘Phase 2 and 3’. Children entering into this phase will build on the wealth of listening activities from Phase 1. Within this phase, the children will learn at least 19 letters and learning how to blend those sounds for reading. This includes learning ‘diagraphs’ – two letters making one sound. The children will also be introduced to reading two-syllable words and simple captions. They will learn to read those tricky words that can’t always be split up into sounds and blended together again.

Children in Year One move onto ‘Phases 4 and 5’. It is within these phases that the children consolidate their knowledge of graphemes for reading and spelling words. The children will learn how to choose the appropriate graphemes to represent phonemes and begin to understand spelling patterns.

Children will:

* learn that sounds are represented by written letters
* learn 44 sounds and the corresponding letter/letter groups using simple picture prompts
* learn how to blend sounds
* learn to read words using Fred Talk ( segmenting and blending)
* learn to write the letters/letter groups which represent 44 sounds.
* learn to write words by saying the sounds they hear in Fred Talk
* write simple sentences

All children in Year 1 are required to take the phonics-screening test in the summer term. For children to be best equipped, frequent reading in school and at home is essential.

In Year 2, we work on embedding phonics from the previous phases and begin work on spelling patterns and rules as set out in the National Curriculum Appendix 1.

The literacy coordinator is Mrs Bott. If you have any queries or would like to discuss our phonics programme further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Useful links

National Curriculum Appendix 1 - <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/239784/English_Appendix_1_-_Spelling.pdf>

Letters and Sounds - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/letters-and-sounds>