Rushwick C of E Primary School

Ask, Seek, Knock

Inspired by the teachings of Jesus and recognising each person as a unique child of God, we work for the common good of everyone, ensuring our door is always open for all to flourish.
We encourage all to thoughtfully ask, graciously seek and courageously knock, so that together we can make a difference to our Rushwick School family and the wider world.

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. Matthew 7:7.

Phonics Policy

Last reviewed on:	January 2026
Next review due by:	January 2028

At Rushwick Primary School, we believe that the teaching of phonics plays a vital role in enabling children to become confident, fluent readers and writers. We use Floppy's Phonics, a DfE approved systematic synthetic phonics (SSP) programme, to ensure consistency, progression and high-quality phonics teaching for all pupils.

This policy reflects the requirements of the National Curriculum for English and supports children in developing the essential skills of decoding, blending and segmenting.

Aims and Objectives

Through the teaching of Floppy's Phonics, we aim to:

- Teach pupils a systematic understanding of the relationship between sounds and letters
- Enable children to decode words effectively for reading
- Develop skills in segmenting words for spelling
- Promote confidence, enjoyment and engagement in reading and writing
- Ensure pupils are prepared for the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
- Provide early identification and intervention for pupils at risk of falling behind

Floppy's Phonics

Floppy's Phonics is a structured phonics programme that:

- Teaches phonemes in a clear, progressive sequence
- Uses decodable reading books that closely match taught sounds
- Includes engaging characters and stories (e.g. Floppy, Biff, Chip and Kipper)
- Develops blending, segmenting, reading and spelling skills systematically

The programme is delivered in levels, ensuring pupils build on prior learning securely.

Teaching and Learning

Organisation

- Daily phonics lessons are taught in:
  - Reception
  - Year 1
- Pupils who have not passed the phonics screening in Year 2, receive daily phonics intervention by joining the Year 1 sessions, and/or additional intervention as required.

- Pupils in Key Stage 2 who have not secured phonics skills receive targeted intervention using Project X resources.

Lesson Structure

Each phonics session follows a consistent structure:

1. Revisit and Review – previously taught sounds and words
2. Teach – introduction of a new phoneme or grapheme
3. Practice – blending and segmenting activities
4. Apply – reading or writing words and sentences using the new sound

Lessons are multi-sensory, engaging and matched to pupils' needs.

Assessment and Progression

- Pupils' phonics knowledge is assessed regularly through:
  - Ongoing teacher assessment
  - Floppy Phonics assessment grids after teaching a sequence of books
  - Phonics checks
  - Reading observations
- Assessment outcomes inform:
  - Grouping
  - Lesson planning
  - Intervention support
- Progress is monitored to ensure pupils move through the Floppy's Phonics levels at an appropriate pace.
- Pupils in Year 1 are prepared for and assessed using the Phonics Screening Check.

Intervention and Inclusion

We are committed to ensuring all pupils succeed in phonics.

- Pupils who are not making expected progress receive:
  - Additional small-group or 1:1 sessions

- Targeted support using Floppy's Phonics resources

Reading Books and Home Learning

- Pupils take home decodable reading books that closely match the phonics they have been taught.
- Parents and carers are encouraged to:
  - Read regularly with their child
  - Practise phonemes and tricky words
- Guidance and support are provided to parents to help them understand how phonics is taught.

Roles and Responsibilities

Subject Leader

- Monitors the implementation of Floppy's Phonics
- Supports staff with training and resources
- Analyses assessment data to ensure progress
- Ensures that all staff member have undertaken the Floppy phonics training materials provided

Teachers and Support Staff

- Deliver phonics lessons consistently and accurately
- Assess pupils and plan appropriate next steps
- Provide intervention where needed
- Ensure that they have undertaken the training materials provided

Resources

The school uses:

- Floppy's Phonics teaching materials
- Decodable reading books
- Sound mats, flashcards and assessment tools
- Additional resources to support intervention and consolidation