



**Ruth Miskin
Training**



Parent Meeting Phonics Screening Check

Reading changes everything

Teach a child to read and keep that child reading and we will change everything.

And I mean everything.

Jeanette Winterson

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

- A word-reading test at the end of Year 1.
- Children read 40 words.

KS1

PHONICS SCREENING CHECK

2025

WHAT

- The test is administered 1:1 to each pupil in school by a teacher
- The check contains 40 words divided into two sections of 20 words
- Both sections contain a mixture of real words and nonsense words (nonsense words are phonically decodable but are not actual words)
- Each pupil is awarded a mark between 0 and 40
- There is no formal time limit, but each check takes about 10 minutes

WHO

- The phonics screening check (PSC) is a test for Year 1 pupils
- The school will report each child's results by the end of the summer term
- If a pupil does not meet the expected standard at the end of Year 1, a programme of support should be put in place
- The teacher will consider a re-take for the pupil in Year 2

WHY

- The phonics screening test is a statutory assessment that confirms whether or not pupils have met the expected standard in phonic decoding
- It reveals which pupils may need additional support

WHEN

- **9th - 13th June:** Schools can choose a day within this week to complete the test
- The test can take place on one day or across several days
- **16th - 20th June:** Timetable variation week for pupils who were absent during PSC week



Speed Sounds Set 3

Consonant sounds

f	l	m	n	r	s	v	z	sh	th	ng
ff	ll	mm	nn	rr	ss	ve	zz	ti		nk
ph	le	mb	kn	wr	se		s	ci		
					c		se			
					ce					

b	c	d	g	h	j	p	qu	t	w	x	y	ch
bb	k	dd	gg		j	pp		tt	wh			tch
	ck				g							
	ch				ge							
					dge							

Vowel sounds

a	e	i	o	u	ay	ee	igh	ow
	ea				<u>a-e</u>	<u>e-e</u>	<u>i-e</u>	<u>o-e</u>
					ai	y	ie	oa
						ea	i	o
						e	y	

oo	oo	ar	or	air	ir	ou	oy	ire	ear	ure
<u>u-e</u>			oor	are	ur	ow	oi			
ue			ore		er					
ew			aw							
			au							

'Special Friends', 'Fred Talk'

1.6

ship

— . .

Nonsense words



sheb



glight



ched



teb

The assessment

Children will be in a relaxed environment with a known adult.

The child will be given a break if needed – as long as the test is completed that day.

They will be tested at some point during the week commencing 8th June 2026.

What can I do?

1. Help your child to use 'Special Friends', 'Fred Talk' 'read the word' to read words.
2. Practise reading sounds speedily.
3. Listen to your child read every day.
4. Practise reading the words on the class page.

Online resources available

Ruth Miskin Parents' Page:

<https://www.ruthmiskin.com/parents/>

Any questions?

- Do the children have to sound out the word?
They don't, but as we cannot correct them if they make a mistake, this will give them valuable thinking time. We encourage using a pencil to underline special friends.
- Will we find out how well they did on the screening check?
Your child's score in the phonics screening check will be reported alongside their end of year report in July.
- Will you tell them they are going to do the screening check?
We tell the children they are going to show us how well they have been learning all the sounds they need to learn and blending them together to read words. They are used to this as we assess their progress in phonics half-termly and we use the process of 'special friends, Fred talk, read the word' every day in our phonics lessons.
- What is the point of 'alien' words?
The children will come across many words they have not seen before whilst learning to read. The use of alien words assesses whether or not the children can apply their knowledge to unfamiliar words.