

Phase 1	<p>Phase 1 begins in Nursery and focuses on developing children's speaking and listening skills.</p> <p>There are seven aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • environmental sounds • instrumental sounds • body sounds • rhythm and rhyme • alliteration • voice sounds • oral blending & segmenting <p>Phase 1 develops children's abilities to listen to, make, explore and talk about sounds. As such, it does not come to an end; instead, these skills continue to be developed throughout the following phases.</p>
Phase 2	<p>Children are taught 19 letters of the alphabet and one sound for each letter. Teaching equips children with the skills to blend sounds together and to segment words into their separate sounds.</p> <p>During this phase, children apply the skills they are developing through reading simple captions.</p>
Phase 3	<p>Children are taught the remaining 7 letters of the alphabet and the corresponding sounds for each letter.</p> <p>Letters such as ch, oo, th etc which represent the remaining sounds not covered by single letters are also taught.</p> <p>Children apply their skills through reading and writing captions, sentences and questions.</p> <p>On completion of this phase, children will have learnt the "simple code" i.e. one letter or group of letters for each sound in the English language.</p>
Phase 4	<p>This is a very short phase during which children learn to blend and segment longer words with adjacent consonants, e.g. swim, clap, jump.</p>
Phase 5	<p>Children are taught alternative spellings for the sounds already learnt (e.g. ai, ay, a_e sound the same but are spelt differently in the words rain, play and make).</p> <p>In addition to this, children learn different ways of pronouncing the letters they already know (e.g. ow makes a different sound in the words cow and show).</p> <p><i>N.B. Most children are developing Phase 5 during Year 1.</i></p>
Phase 6/Support for Spelling	<p>This phase usually begins during Year 2.</p> <p>Once children are secure at Phase 5, we work on moving them away from blending and segmenting and try to enable a more automatic approach to spelling. 'Support for Spelling' develops children's skills through explicit teaching of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – phonics – spelling patterns and conventions – homophones – phonological knowledge – root words – compound words – suffixes – prefixes – etymology (word derivations)

