

## **Phonics and Reading at Ashby Hill Top Primary School**

Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 follow the 'Sounds-Write' programme. It is a highly structured, synthetic phonics programme using a multi-sensory, incremental and code-oriented, approach to teaching children to read and spell.



Our daily phonics sessions are fun, involving lots of speaking, listening and games. The emphasis is on children's active participation. Children learn to use their phonic knowledge for reading and writing activities and in their independent play.

Sounds-Write is divided into three sections, Initial Code, Extended Code and Polysyllabic Words, with each phase building on the skills and knowledge of previous learning. There are no big leaps in learning. Children have time to practice and rapidly expand their ability to read and spell words.

For reading we currently use the Oxford Reading Tree. This provides a variety of fiction and non-fiction books to develop children's reading range. Children learn to read at different rates. Once they finish the reading scheme, we encourage them to become 'free readers' and choose their own books. This is sometimes supplemented by other reading schemes, and we also encourage children to read non-fiction texts from the school's library.

We teach a wide range of nursery rhymes and songs and read good books to and with the children. This helps to increase the number of words they know– their vocabulary – and helps them talk confidently about books. The children learn to identify rhyme and alliteration.

### **Ways you can support your children at home:**

**<http://www.familylearning.org.uk/>**

**<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/parents/ten-tips-on-hearing-your-child-read>**

**<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/School>**

**<http://www.springboard.org.uk/data/files/Parents/parents-little-guide.pdf>**