



Phonics



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Phonics at Holy Family is taught through a programme called **Story Time Phonics**. Story Time phonics teaches the children sounds through real, well known books. This helps the children remember the sounds as well as have the opportunity to hear the sounds in a context.

Early Years

Your child's phonic journey will begin in the Foundation Stage. In Nursery, the children start with **Phase 1**. This involves listening to sounds for example what the children can hear in the environment. As well as playing with sounds such as rhyming games.

As they move through the Foundation Stage, children learn to read words through systematic synthetic phonics. This is **Phase 2 and Phase 3** They learn to decode by segmenting (breaking down into sounds) and blending (putting together sounds to make words). They also learn to read words which cannot be broken down which is supported with Makaton signing.

Key Stage 1

Children's phonics development is continued through Key Stage 1. Teachers follow Letters and Sounds for planning. Lessons are taught using Story Time Phonics so that children experience phonics through real books Children are split into smaller groups and are taught according to their needs. Lessons are fun and engaging and include lots of songs and practical activities to give the children the opportunity to reinforce their learning. Children are taught how to segment and blend words for reading. As well as continuing to use Makaton signing to learn words which cannot be decoded. During Key Stage 1 children learn **phase 4 – phase 6**.

Key Stage 2

Children in Key Stage 2 who are still struggling with phonics have access to phonic sessions with trained teaching assistants. This is taught as an intervention. Programmes such Fast Track Phonics and Story Time Phonics are used to support the learning.

