

The Forge Trust's policy is to use the Letters and Sounds Framework to plan for phonics. We believe that the Letters and Sounds document, published in 2007, describes 'effective teaching and learning'.

Phonics at The Forge Trust is based on the key principle of effective teaching and learning. It provides a flexible model that gives teachers opportunities to plan and resource lessons matched to children's learning needs and current interests whilst also ensuring all children are exposed to age-related teaching content.

We have a clear structure for teaching and learning that provides frequent opportunities for practise and consolidation alongside new learning and acknowledges the importance of building on proficiency with reading to become accurate at spelling.

We adopt a whole-class age-related approach which promotes high expectations for children to develop competency with the foundations of phonics and the basic code by the end of Reception Year and to master phonics for fluent reading by the end of Year 1.

## **Overview**

'Letters & Sounds' is the government programme for teaching phonics and high frequency words.

It is split into 6 phases:

**Phase 1:** Children learn rhymes. Keep rhythms and start to relate letter sounds to (starting in Nursery) words. E.g. b for bag.

**Phase 2:** Children learn initial letter sounds and build 3 letter words.

**Phase 3:** Children learn all 44 phonemes and blend sounds to read and write words.

**Phase 4:** Children blend consonants together to read difficult words e.g. blue, grab.

**Phase 5:** Children learn how to spell letter sounds in more than one way e.g. rain, day, make.

**Phase 6:** Children learn how to spell word specific spellings. E.g. turned, beautiful, shopping.

## **Useful Websites**

[www.phonicsplay.co.uk/freeindex](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/freeindex)

[www.letters-and-sounds.com](http://www.letters-and-sounds.com)

[www.ictgames.com/literacy.html](http://www.ictgames.com/literacy.html)

[www.educationcity.co.uk](http://www.educationcity.co.uk)

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/wordsandpictures/phonics](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/wordsandpictures/phonics)

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1itesize/literacy](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1itesize/literacy)