

Dear parents,
Here is a quick guide to the Phonic Phases.
Please also see the list of common exception words in the homework diary.

Phase 2

Graphemes & phonemes taught:

Set 1 : s a t p

Set 2: i n m d

Set 3: g o c k

Set 4: ck e u r

Set 5: h b f, ff l, ll ss

Phase 3

Graphemes & phonemes taught:

Set 6: j v w x

Set 7: y z, zz qu

Phoneme - The smallest unit of sound.

There are approximately 44 phonemes in English (it depends on different accents). Phonemes can be put together to make words.

Grapheme - A way of writing down a phoneme. Graphemes can be made up from 1 letter e.g. p, 2 letters e.g. sh, 3 letters e.g. tch or 4 letters e.g. ough.

Digraph - A grapheme containing two letters that makes just one sound (phoneme).

Trigraph - A grapheme containing three letters that makes just one sound

Graphemes (digraphs / trigraphs) & sample words

ch chip	ar farm
sh shop	or for
th thin/then	ur hurt
ng ring	ow cow
ai rain	oi coin
ee feet	ear dear
igh night	air fair
oa boat	ure sure
oo boot/look	er corner

Phase 4

The purpose of this phase is to consolidate children's knowledge of graphemes in reading and spelling words containing adjacent consonants and polysyllabic words.
Eg. stick, bright, plant, desktop, handbook,

Phase 5

Continue to consolidate & alternate spellings

ay day	oy boy	wh when	a-e make
ou out	ir girl	ph photo	e-e these
ie tie	ue blue	ew new	i-e like
ea eat	aw saw	oe toe	
au Paul	o-e home	u-e rule	

Alternative pronunciations

i fin, find	ow cow, blow	y yes, by, very
o hot, cold	ie tie, field	ch chin, school, chef
c cat, cent	ea eat, bread	ou out, shoulder, could, you
g got, giant	er farmer, her	
u but, put (south)	a hat, what	