

**BOURNE ABBEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY**

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Dear Parent/Carer

**Phonics Screen Check**

The statutory phonics screening check takes place in June. All children in England take this phonics-based check at the end of Year 1 and the results are used to show how well children are performing in reading. In 2024, 87% of Year 1 pupils at Bourne Abbey reached the pass level of 32 out of 40. In 2023, 79% of Year 1 pupils met the expected standard nationally and 77% met the expected standard locally.

Pupils who have not reached this standard at the end of Year 1 receive support from school to ensure they can improve their phonic decoding skills. Pupils then have the opportunity to retake the screen check at the end of Year 2. In 2024, 94% of Year 2 pupils at Bourne Abbey reached the pass level of 32 out of 40. In 2023, 89% of Year 2 pupils met the expected standard nationally and 88% met the expected standard locally.

The check is a 10-minute progress check to help identify children who have not yet learnt to read fluently. Teachers known to the children run the tests. The test includes real and nonsense (alien) words to help ensure children have not merely memorised words. The words are presented to children on a one-to-one basis.

Non-words (alien words) are presented with a picture prompt so that children are given a context for reading the non-words (alien words). For example, the teacher could explain that the non-word was the name of a type of imaginary creature, and then ask the child to name the creature drawn next to the letter sequence.

We have included your child's phonics outcome with this letter. This tells you whether or not your child has met the required standard. Pupils who have not reached this standard will receive support from school to ensure they can improve their phonic decoding skills.

We can also give you information about how you might be able to help your child at home. Please visit the website below, which gives you some more information about the screening process.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/learning-to-read-through-phonics-information-for-parents>

Should you have any queries about this, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see your child's class teacher.

Helpful links for parents/carers giving useful advice and phonics games and activities:

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading-owl/reading>

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Houghton  
Acting Head of School