



GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY

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Dear Parents / Carers,

At Goldington Green we want learning to read to be fun and an enjoyable experience. We use phonics to teach children to read. Phonemes (sounds) and graphemes (how a letter looks) are taught in a special order, this is because education specialists have worked out that this is the best way to help children learn to read. Each week your child will be taught a group of phonemes-graphemes. Your child will bring home an activity booklet linked to the phonemes-graphemes taught that week every Friday. These booklets will include linking phonemes/actions to graphemes, identifying initial sounds in words-segmenting (breaking a word down in to phonemes), writing the focus letters and blending (putting sounds together to make words).

It is very important that children sound phonemes correctly. For quite a lot of letters, there is the temptation to put an 'er' on the end. When you say a phoneme think about how it actually sounds in a word, for example 'f' might come out as 'fer' but in a word has a very short 'f' sound, like in 'fluff', if you use 'fer' it becomes 'ferluffer'. Please refer to our school website for guidance on 'pure' sounds.

Once your child is confident with the set 1 phonemes (s a t p) they will bring home a book to practise blending these sounds. Those children who are not confidently linking sounds to letters will be encouraged to bring home a library book to explore. Please encourage your child to tell the story using the pictures, look for the focus sound in their book. It is also important for the adult to model how to handle a book and point to the words as you read to your child.

Children will read/explore sounds 1 to 1, at least once a week. Please ensure that your child brings their reading book and diary to school every day. The reading diary is for you and the class teachers to exchange comments on your child's progress with these tasks. Each class has a reading rocket. Every time your child reads at home and you have signed/commented your child will move up the rocket. If your child reads 5 times at home during the week, at the end of the week they will receive a certificate. Phonics booklets can remain at home and be used to revisit previous learning.

Please do not worry if your child takes longer than others to link sounds to letters. It is important that we work together to ensure children progress at their own level, and in their own time.

We are here to support you and if you would like to discuss how to support your child please speak to me, or your child's Class Teacher

Yours sincerely,

Miss Harris
Early Years Leader



Like little seeds always aiming higher. Give, Grow & Aspire

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