



ELS Phonics Overview – Phase 1 to Phase 5

Phase 1*	Phase 2	Phase 3**
Nursery/Pre-School Seven aspects: • Environmental sounds • Instrumental sounds • Body percussion • Rhythm and rhyme • Alliteration • Voice sounds • Oral blending	 Reception/Primary 1 Autumn 1 Oral blending Sounding out and blendingwith 23 new grapheme-phoneme correspondences (GPCs) 12 new harder to read andspell (HRS) words 	Reception/Primary 1 Autumn 2, Spring 1 and Spring 2 • Oral blending • Sounding out and blendingwith 29 new GPCs • 32 new HRS words • Revision of Phase 2
Phase 4**	Phase 5 including alternatives and lesser-known GPCs	Beyond Phase 5
Reception/Primary 1 Summer 1 • Oral blending • No new GPCs • No new HRS words • Word structures – cvcc, ccvc, ccvcc, cccvc, cccvcc • Suffixes • Revision of Phase 2 andPhase 3	Reception/Primary 1 Summer 2 Introduction to Phase 5 forreading 20 new GPCs 16 new HRS words Year 1/Primary 2 Autumn 1 and 2 Revision of previouslytaught Phase 5 GPCs 2 new GPCs 9 new HRS words Year 1/Primary 2 Spring 1 and 2 Alternative spellings for previously taught sounds 49 new GPCs 4 new HRS words Oral blending Revision of Phase 2, Phase3 and Phase 4	 Year 1/Primary 2 Summer, Year 2/Primary 3 and Key Stage 2 With ELS, phonics teachingdoes not stop at the end of Year 1, but continues aschildren move through theschool, with links being made between their GPC knowledge and spelling Revision of all previously taught GPCs for reading andspelling Wider reading, spelling andwriting curriculum

*Phase 1 of Letters and Sounds (2007) can be used in Nursery/Pre-School settings before starting ELS in Reception and can still be used throughout the school day in Reception. However, direct phonics teaching – the teaching of sounds, graphemes, word reading and vocabulary – must startfrom the very beginning of Reception.

**Phase 3 of ELS covers more than just the Phase 3 graphemes – we introduce some challenge fromPhase 4 (in the form of adjacent consonants) alongside the Phase 3 teaching to extend children's sounding out and blending skills.





ELS Term by Term Progression

Reception/Primary 1 Autumn 1: Phase 2						
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	
/s/ <s> /a/ <a> /t/ <t> /p/</t></s>	/i/ <i> /n/ <n> /m/ <m> /d/ <d></d></m></n></i>	/g/ <g> /o/ <o> /c/ <c> <k></k></c></o></g>	/k/ <ck> /e/ <e> /u/ <u> /r/ <r></r></u></e></ck>	/s/ <ss> Assess and review week R:1</ss>	/h/ <h> /b/ /f/ <f> <ff> /l/ <l> <ll></ll></l></ff></f></h>	
	I, the, no	put, of, is	to, go, into	pull	as, his	

	Reception/Primary 1 Autumn 2: Phase 3							
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6			
/j/ <j> /v/ <v> /w/ <w> /ks/ <x></x></w></v></j>	/y/ <y> /z/ <z> <zz> /kw/ <qu> /ch/ <ch></ch></qu></zz></z></y>	/sh/ <sh> /th/ (voiced and unvoiced) /ng/ <ng> /nk/ <nk></nk></ng></sh>	/ai/ <ai> /ee/ <ee> /igh/ <igh> /oa/ <oa></oa></igh></ee></ai>	-es (where there is no change to the root word) Assess and review week R:2	Review week R:3			
he, she, buses	we, me, be	push	was, her		my, you			

Reception/Primary 1 Spring 1: Phase 3-4*						
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	
Review week R:4 /oo/ <oo> (book)</oo>	/ar/ <ar> /ur/ <ur> /oo/ <oo> (food) /or/ <or></or></oo></ur></ar>	/ow/ <ow> /oi/ <oi> /ear/ <ear> /air/ <air></air></ear></oi></ow>	/ure/ <ure> /er/ <er> /oa/ <ow></ow></er></ure>	Assess and review week R:5	Review week R:6	
	they, all, are		ball, tall	when, what		

* Phase 3 of ELS covers more than just the Phase 3 graphemes – we introduce some challenge fromPhase 4 (in the form of adjacent consonants) alongside the Phase 3 teaching to extend children's sounding out and blending skills.

Reception/Primary 1 Spring 2: Phase 3-4							
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6		
Review week R:7	Review week R:8	Review week R:9	Review week R:10	Assess and review week R:11	Review week R:12		
said, so, have	were, out, like	some, come, there	little, one, do	children, love			





Reception/Primary 1 Summer 1: Phase 4						
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	
Phase 4:1 CVCC –ed /ed/	Phase 4:2 CCVC –ed /t/	Phase 4:3 CCVCC –ed /d/	Phase 4:4 CCCVC	Assess and review week R:13	Phase 4:5 CCCVCC –er –est	

I	Reception/Primary 1 Summer 2: Phase 5 introduction							
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6			
/ai/ <ay> /ow/ <ou> /igh/ <ie> /ee/ <ea> —le</ea></ie></ou></ay>	/oi/ <oy> /ur/ <ir> /(y)oo/ <ue> /or/ <aw></aw></ue></ir></oy>	/w/ <wh> /f/ <ph> /(y)oo/ <ew> /oa/ <oe></oe></ew></ph></wh>	/or/ <au> /ee/ <ey> /ai/ <a-e> /ee/ <e-e></e-e></a-e></ey></au>	Assess and review week R:14	/igh/ <i-e> /oa/ <o-e> /(y)oo/ <u-e> /s/ <c></c></u-e></o-e></i-e>			
oh, their	people, Mr, Mrs	your, ask, should	would, could, asked	house, mouse, water	want, very			

Year 1/Primary 2 Autumn 1: Phase 5						
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	
Assess and review week Y1:1	Review week Y1:2	Revise: /ai/ <ay> /ow/ <ou> /igh/ <ie> /ee/ <ea></ea></ie></ou></ay>	Revise: /oi/ <oy> /ur/ <ir> /(y)oo/ <ue> /or/ <aw></aw></ue></ir></oy>	Assess and review week Y1:3	Revise: /w/ <wh> /f/ <ph> /(y)oo/ <ew> /oa/ <oe></oe></ew></ph></wh>	

Year 1/Primary 2 Autumn 2: Phase 5							
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6		
Revise: /or/ <au> /ee/ <ey> /ai/ <a-e> /ee/ <e-e></e-e></a-e></ey></au>	Revise: /igh/ <i-e> /oa/ <o-e> /(y)oo/ <u-e> /s/ <c></c></u-e></o-e></i-e>	/ee/ <y> /or/ <al> (walk) Review week Y1:4</al></y>	Review week Y1:5	Assess and review week Y1:6	Review week Y1:7		
please, once	any, many, again	who, whole	where, two				





	Year 1/Primary 2 Spring 1: Phase 5							
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6			
Review week Y1:8	/ai/ <a> (acorn) /ai/ <ey> (they) /ai/ <ea> (great) /ai/ <eigh> (weight) /ar/ <a> (father) /ee/ <e> (he) /igh/ <i> (find) /igh/ <y> (by)</y></i></e></eigh></ea></ey>	/oa/ <o> (go) /o/ <a> (was) /oo/ <u> (push) /y/+/oo/ <u> (music) /c/ <ch> (school) /sh/ <ch> (chef) /e/ <ea> (head)</ea></ch></ch></u></u></o>	/ur/ <or> (world) /ur/ <ear> (learn) /oo/ <ou> (soup) /oa/ <ou> (shoulder) /ee/ <ie> (brief) /v/ <ve> (have) /i/ <y> (gym)</y></ve></ie></ou></ou></ear></or>	Assess and review week Y1:9	/air/ <are> (care) /air/ <ere> (there) /air/ <ear> (pear) /ch/ <tch> (catch)</tch></ear></ere></are>			
		here, sugar, friend	because					

Year 1/Primary 2 Spring 2: Phase 5								
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6			
/u/ <o> (brother) Review week Y1:10</o>	/j/ <g> (gem) /j/ <ge>(fringe) /j/ <dge> (bridge) /s/ <st> (listen)</st></dge></ge></g>	/s/ <ce> (fence) /s/ <se> (house) /n/ <gn> (sign) /n/ <kn> (knee) /r/ <wr> (wrap) /m/ <mb> (lamb)</mb></wr></kn></gn></se></ce>	/z/ <se> (cheese) /z/ <ze> (freeze) /ear/ <eer> (cheer) /ear/ <ere> (here) /sh/ <ti> (patient) /sh/ <ti> -tion (station)</ti></ti></ere></eer></ze></se>	Assess and review week Y1:11	/ar/ <al> (half) /or/ <augh> (caught) /sh/ <ssi> (session) /zh/ <si> (vision) /sh/ <ti> -tious (scrumptious) /sh/ <ci> (delicious) -ous, -ion, -ian</ci></ti></si></ssi></augh></al>			

Year 1/Primary 2 Summer 1, Summer 2: all phases							
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6		
Review all previously taught GPCs for reading and spelling and teach further rarely used GPCs (see Appendix ii).							





Consolidating Learning in Year 2 / Primary 3

Essential Letters and Sounds is designed on the principle that children should 'keep up' rather than 'catch up'. Since interventions are delivered within the lesson by the teacher, any child who is struggling with the new knowledge can be immediately targeted with appropriate support. However, we recognise that some children may need to revisit some of the Year 1 content, in the first term of Year 2.

At the beginning of Year 2, teachers complete a Half- termly Assessment with each child in the class, allowing them to identify any gaps in children's knowledge or understanding. The most frequently identified GPCs, raised in the Half-termly Assessment, will then be revisited at the start of each phonics lesson in year 2. Teachers will also reteach the content from Year 1, Summer 1 and Year 1, Summer 2 during the Autumn term. This will help to consolidate children's knowledge and ensure they are ready to step up to the requirements of Year 2. The familiarity of the whiteboard presentations will also help children to build their confidence and feel ready for the next steps.