

'Respectful and resilient; being the best that we can be.'

Timothy Hackworth Primary School



## 'Essential Letters and Sounds' Phonics Programme

CRC Article 28: All children have the right to a good quality education.

24<sup>th</sup> March, 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may already be aware, teaching your child to read continues to be a high priority in our school.

Following an update from the Department for Education regarding Phonics, we have now adopted the 'Essential Letters and Sounds' phonics programme in our school, as we believe that this programme meets the needs of our children and will help to develop their phonics skills. This new phonics programme will support your child to make rapid progress so that they become fluent and confident readers.

So that we are able to help your children to be the best that they can be in phonics, we ask that you read the reading book provided by our school **4 times** across the week. Spending 10 minutes each day reading with your child will hugely support them on their journey to becoming an independent reader. Re-reading your child's reading book several times will help to build confidence and fluency. This is especially important as they begin to learn the sounds within our language that can be spelt in different ways. It is a key part of learning to read that children re-read words and sentences that they can decode (sound out) until they are fluent (read with ease and precision). By reading their reading book several times, children have the greatest opportunity to achieve this fluency.

The books that are sent home with your child are carefully matched to the teaching taking place in school. Your child will be practising what they have been taught in school with you at home. We only ask children to read independently when they can decode these by themselves.

Videos on how to say the sounds for Phase 3 and Phase 5 will be available to watch on our website.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

*Miss H. Corney*

Phonics Lead

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