

Phonics at Western House Academy is based on the Letters and Sounds program. The children in Reception and Year 1 are taught new phonic sounds daily and progress through a prescribed program that begins in Nursery and continues until the phonics assessment at the end of Year 1.

The phonics assessment is a government requirement for all children, unless the teachers believe that a child would not be able to take the assessment. If that is the case, parents will be informed prior to assessing beginning.

The phonics test contains 40 words, 20 are real life words and 20 are alien words (made up words with recognisable sounds the children have been taught). The pass mark is subject to change every year. In 2016 it was 32/40. If a child does not achieve the pass mark, they will be given extra support in Year 2 and will re-take the assessment at the end of Year 2.

Further Questions Answered:

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/home/reading-owl/expert-help/the-year-1-phonics-screening-check>

Phonic games to play at home:

<http://www.ictgames.com/literacy.html>

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

http://www.familylearning.org.uk/phonics_games.html

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/what-is-letters-and-sounds.html>

Phonics - What do they sound like?

For an example YouTube - search: Mr Thorne Does Phonics Letters and Sounds