

Phonics teaching at the Lantern:

We use the long established Jolly Phonics scheme to teach Phonics at the Lantern. Jolly Phonics is a child centred approach to the teaching of phonics using actions for each of the 42 letter sounds. The letter sounds are taught in a specific order so that children are able to begin building words as early as possible. Using a synthetic approach, the Jolly Phonics scheme teaches children the 5 key skills that form the foundation of reading and writing. It is a multi-sensory approach with stories and songs to engage and motivate the children.

1. Letter sounds – Children are taught the 42 main letter sounds. These include single letter sounds (s, a, t) digraphs (sh, th, ai, ee) and trigraphs (igh, ear).
2. Letter formation – this is taught alongside the introduction of each letter sound so that children are confident applying the new sound taught as quickly as possible.
3. Blending – Children are taught how to blend the sounds together to read and write new words.
4. Segmenting - When children start reading words, they are taught to identify the sounds that make up that word.
5. Tricky words – Tricky words have irregular spellings and children learn these separately as exceptions to the rules of phonics.

