**Phonics at Parkend**

At Parkend Primary phonic teaching begins when the children first start school. Children are taught in small ability groups. This is to ensure children are taught at a pace that is both supportive and challenging and suited to their stage of development.

At Parkend we use Floppy’s Phonics as our synthetic phonics program. The Floppy’s Phonics scheme was chosen, through consultation with the Mangotsfield English Hub, as we believed that the pupils at Parkend needed a deeper understanding of phonics that will lead to increased understanding of spelling patterns and comprehension skills as they moved into Year 2.

Pupils are assessed using Phonic Tracker and results from the tracker and teachers assess through ‘Assessment for Learning’ to target appropriate interventions, close any gaps and ensure the phonics expectations are met.

As children move into the Reception program, they explore and secure their understanding of grapheme-phoneme correspondence through Floppy’s Phonics. Through daily whole class and small group activities, they use their knowledge of sounds to tackle new words. This learning is reinforced through regular practice with phonologically decodable texts. Children also build their sight vocabulary through exposure to repetitive texts such as the stories, rhymes and interactive phonic programmes on the White Board.

We teach phonics daily in Key Stage 1 with a 25 minute phonic session, where the children learn about how to read and write using phonic knowledge. The children play many different phonic games to develop their understanding of how sounds make words and how words are used to make sentences.

All Year 1 children participate in the National Phonic Screening in June. They read twenty real and twenty ‘pseudo’ words to test their phonic knowledge. Those pupils in year 2 who did not gain their pass mark in the Phonics Screening retake the screening in June with the year 1 pupils. Although there is not a high percentage of pupils who do not achieve the pass mark for the screening; phonics remains to be taught for those who require it across the school.