

# Reading and Phonics



## Phonics

At Isaac Newton Primary School, early reading is taught using synthetic phonics as the main approach to reading. Pupils are systematically taught the phonemes (sounds), how to blend the sounds to read words, and how to segment the sounds in order to write words. They are taught to use their phonic skills and knowledge as their first approach to reading, but are also taught high frequency words which do not always follow the phonic rules.

The school follows the government programme "Letters and Sounds" as the basis for teaching. In order to achieve this we use a published scheme called "Phonics Bug" in both the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1.

## Reading Schemes

All of our early reading books are colour banded. Your child will be given a colour band to choose their home reading book from which will help to ensure that the book they select is at the right reading level for them. Every colour band includes books from a range of genres so that they will experience a range of stories, text types and illustrations. The majority of books within the early book bands can be decoded using phonics skills and knowledge. As such please encourage your child to use their phonics skills to read. A range of published schemes are used including Phonics Bug, The Oxford Reading Tree and Collins Pathways.