

Early Reading Roadmap

We aim for all pupils to achieve the following:

- To develop a love of reading differentiated to the needs of the children using AAC when necessary
- To ensure children are assessed according to the communication matrix and follow the intended pathway
- To ensure listening skills and functional communication play a key role in all pupils' phonics lessons

Implementation - Communication Matrix

Immediately implementing a formal phonics pathway when children have not yet been able to recognise symbols or developed their listening skills is not appropriate. In light of this we assess the children using a communication matrix and ensure they are exposed to key stages prior to a formal phonics pathway being implemented.

- All children are assessed using the communication matrix which determines their appropriate communication stage
- If the child is assessed as levels 1-4, they are not yet able to recognise a concrete symbol and therefore will not be exposed to a formal phonics pathway
- Once the child has reached level 5, they will be able to recognise concrete symbols and therefore will be able to recognise and discriminate between letters. This will inform the teacher to begin to introduce them to a formal phonics pathway
- The formal phonics pathway consists of:
 - 'See and Learn'- an app to formally expose and teach children sight reading
 - 'Read Write Inc'- a proven synthetic phonics programme that ensures early success in reading, writing and spelling
- The children are exposed to both pathways for one term. The teacher will then decide which pathway is suitable for their reading development

