Beaconhill Community Primary School Langdale Drive Cramlington Northumberland NE23 8EH

Tel: 01670 714864 Fax: 01670 739302

Email: admin@beaconhill.northumberland.sch.uk Headteacher: Mr Joel Routledge B.Ed NPQH





Thursday 22nd May

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will know, children in **Year One** will soon be taking part in the **Phonics Screening Check** which takes place during the week commencing Monday 9th June.

What is the phonics screening check?

All Year One pupils in England take the phonics screening check. Our children will complete the check with a member of the Year One staff team that they are familiar with.

The **check** is made up of **40 words** and usually takes around **5** to **10 minutes**. Some words are **real words** and others are **nonsense** (or 'alien') words that help to show if pupils can work out how to **decode words** they haven't seen before.

The check helps us to see:

- How pupils are progressing in phonics
- Where to provide additional teaching and support

The check may not be appropriate for some pupils. We'll let you know if we think this is the case for your child.

Do we get to know the results?

We'll let you know the results before the end of the school year when we send home your child's end of year report.

If your child does not meet the 'expected standard' in the check, they'll retake the check next year. Children who don't reach the 'expected' threshold will have **extra support** in the form of booster sessions when they start **Year Two** and will **retake** the check in **June 2026**.

Do we need to prepare at home?

No – your child is being taught phonics at school and no special work at home is needed. However, you can always help your child by:

Reading to and with them

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- Playing sound and reading games
- Teaching them new words, and showing them how they're written



If you have any questions or want to talk further about the phonics screening check, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks,

Mr Routledge

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