



Phase 2 Phonics

In phase 2, pupils will begin to take part in structured phonics sessions, where they will learn new sounds and apply them to read words.

As part of this phase, pupils will learn some new language to support their learning.

Grapheme - A letter or group of letters used to represent a particular phoneme when writing e.g. (the letter in print – 'g').

Phoneme - The smallest unit of sound that can be identified in words. We sometimes simply call this a 'sound', although it is helpful for children to use the term 'phoneme' from the beginning of our programme.

Pupils are taught new GPCs (grapheme phoneme correspondence) either in small groups or as a whole class. The order that they learn each new GPC is set, but the pace of learning is unique to each group/class. Pupils are also given the opportunity to revisit and revise what they have learned to ensure that all learning is being consolidated in their long term memory.

All of the graphemes and phonemes taught are practised in words, sentences, and when appropriate, in fully decodable books.

Phase 2 Phonics also introduces the concept of '**tricky words**'. Tricky words are high-frequency words that, although decodable in themselves, cannot be decoded by children using the GPCs they have been taught up to that point. Examples of tricky words that pupils would learn in phase 2 are: ***I, we, is, the***. Tricky words are taught systematically so that pupils can decode all words in their decodable reading books.

Please see [this video](#) for more information about **tricky words**.

Below is the order that pupils learn GPCs and tricky words in the first unit of phase 2.

Phase 2 graphemes	New tricky words
s a t p	
i n m d	
g o c k	is
ck e u r	I
h b f l	the

Towards the end of phase 2, pupils are introduced to the concept of **'digraphs'**.

Digraph - A grapheme using two letters to represent one phoneme. We frequently reinforce it with the mantra 'two letters, one sound'. Examples of phase 2 digraphs are: **sh, th, ch, ng**.

Below is the order that pupils learn new digraphs and tricky words in the second unit of phase 2.

Phase 2 graphemes	New tricky words
ff ll ss j	put* pull* full* as
v w x y	and has his her
z zz qu words with s /s/ added at the end (hats sits) ch	go no to into
sh th ng nk	she push* he of
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> words with s /s/ added at the end (hats sits) words ending s /z/ (his) and with s /z/ added at the end (bags) 	we me be

Pupils will also be involved with lots of activities to practise blending their sounds together to read words.

Please see the [Parent Area](#) of the Little Wandle website for information on phase 2 GPCs and blending.