# Phonics at St Gregory's

## Intent

### Purpose

At St Gregory's, the curriculum our children experience enables us to live out our Mission Slogan: ***Loving all, like Jesus, we flourish together***. We aim to enable ***all*** our children to ***flourish***, regardless of background or disposition by offering a rich and informed curriculum packed with opportunities for all our children to experience 'life to the full' (John 10:10).

At St Gregory's, we believe that a high quality Phonics should develop children's skills through motivating, meaningful and memorable learning experiences. We recognise the importance of nurturing a culture where children are able to read with fluency and accuracy whilst also enabling them to develop the love of reading.

In keeping with the rest of the curriculum at our school, the learning our children undertake in Phonics enables them to practice and embed the relevant Seven Skills of the Steward – attributes and attitudes which we believe will be essential so as to enable our children to thrive in the world of the future and help make 'Thy Kingdom come':

**Team-working † Problem-solving † Creativity † Peace-making**

**Empathy † Resilience † Gratitude**

## Implementation

Our DFE-validated, complete systematic synthetic Phonics scheme (Supersonic Phonic Friends) is delivered daily to all children from Reception to Y2 (and any in lower key stage two who may be in need of 'catching up'). This daily, quality-first Phonics teaching follows a consistent teaching sequence which is based upon the review, teach, practice, apply and review approach. Sessions are interactive with a range of actions that the children learn throughout the phases. Sessions also include practical visuals, games and different methods of recording, including whiteboards and phonic jotters. Group sizes vary depending on the needs of the children. More information about this can found by reading the Supersonic Friends Overview attached on our webpage.

In Reception, Key Stage 1 and – where appropriate – Key Stage 2, children are provided with a phonetically decodable home reading book which is linked to their Phonic phase, at the level most appropriate to each child to secure fluency and confidence in our early readers. All books correspond really well with our Supersonic Phonic Friends scheme. Once children are secure at Phonics, they are provided with a home reading book linked to their book band reading stage.

Assessment, Inclusion & Equal Opportunities

In keeping with the ‘loving all’ element of our Mission Slogan, we set up every child at our school to achieve of their very best. All children are provided with work that matches their relevant needs, dispositions and stages of development. To enable our children to 'keep up' rather than 'catch up', Phonics interventions are delivered to targeted children daily. Formal and informal assessments are regularly carried out to monitor progress, celebrate successes and identify areas to address. Where relevant in Key Stage 2, Phonics interventions take place following the same approach.

We provide suitable learning opportunities regardless of any of the protected characteristics. All children are provided with equal access to Phonics, empowered in a multitude of ways including pre teach, practical and visual strategies and post teach, along with extra adult support.

Role of Subject leader

The Subject Leader is responsible for improving the standards of Phonics through:

- Monitoring and evaluating provision, progress, and data
- Keeping up to date with recent developments in reading/phonics provision
- Moderating Phonics with SLT and staff
- Identifying and supporting children who have fallen behind age-related expectations.
- Provide coaching and training to staff in relation to early reading and Phonics.
- Reporting back to SLT and Governors about the standards of Phonics provision and outcomes at our school

## Impact

By teaching a well-balanced systematic phonic approach our children will have life to the full. It will enable children to have access to the curriculum. Phonics is a full fundamental.

S Davies November 2022

Review date: September 2023