



# The Crescent Primary School

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**Headteacher:** Mr Mark Wartnaby  
**Deputy Headteacher:** Mrs Natalie Preston  
**Assistant Headteacher:** Mrs Parmjit Dulay

20<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Department of Education implements a statutory assessment for all children in Year 1 called the 'Phonics Screening Check'. Your child will take part in this assessment during the week beginning 9th June 2025.

The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether individual children have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard for Year 1. The check comprises of a list of 40 words that children read one-to-one with a teacher.

The assessment will contain a mix of real words and 'non-words' (or 'nonsense words'). Non-words are important because words such as 'vap' or 'jound' are new to all children. Children cannot read the non-words by using their memory or vocabulary; they have to use their decoding skills. This is a fair way to assess their ability to decode.

To help your child in preparation for this assessment you can:

- Practise all the phase 3 and 5 sounds listed in their reading logs
- Practise reading the real and nonsense words listed on their homework sheet
- Access games such as 'Picnic on Pluto' on: [www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk).

If you would like to know more information about the assessment, please see your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely

Miss Moody, Miss Jones, Mrs Martin and Mrs Lynch  
Year 1 Team

### Reach for the Stars

