

## How Children learn phonics at Blanford Mere?

Please click on the link to access free resources to support your Reception child at home.

<https://www.jollylearning.co.uk/school-closure-support-for-schools/>

### What is Jolly Phonics?

Jolly Phonics is a fun and child centred approach to teaching literacy through synthetic phonics. With actions for each of the 42 letter sounds, the multi-sensory method is very motivating for children and teachers, who can see their students achieve. The letter sounds are split into seven groups as shown below.

### Letter Sound Order

The sounds are taught in a specific order (not alphabetically). This enables children to begin building words as early as possible.

### How does Jolly Phonics work?

Using a synthetic phonics approach, Jolly Phonics teaches children the five key skills for reading and writing. The programme continues through school enabling the teaching of essential grammar, spelling and punctuation skills.

### The five skills taught in Jolly Phonics

#### 1. Learning the letter sounds

Children are taught the 42 main letter sounds. This includes alphabet sounds as well as digraphs such as sh, th, ai and ue.

#### 2. Learning letter formation

Using different multi-sensory methods, children learn how to form and write the letters.

#### 3. Blending

Children are taught how to blend the sounds together to read and write new words.

#### 4. Identifying the sounds in words (Segmenting)

Listening for the sounds in words gives children the best start for improving spelling.

#### 5. Tricky words

Tricky words have irregular spellings and children learn these separately.

The literacy skills taught in Jolly Phonics are reinforced and built upon in with [Jolly Grammar](#), which teaches essential grammar and spelling skills.