



**Leeds East
Primary Partnership**
A CO-OPERATIVE TRUST

**White Laith
Primary School**

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PHONICS SCREENING CHECK 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to inform you about the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check which is a Government test that is compulsory for all Year 1 children in England. The test is a phonics screening test and therefore tests children's phonic ability. It was trialled in England in 2011 and found that 32% of Year 1 children achieved the required standard. The test is now compulsory for all schools in England and started in 2012. The Government recognises that this test is very ambitious, but they believe that phonics is a vital skill and they are keen to improve standards throughout the country.

The phonics screening check for your child will take place after the half term summer holiday – week beginning Monday 10th June 2019. The check is nothing to worry about and the children will be fully aware of what they will be expected to do.

The check consists of forty words that the children must read aloud, by themselves to the teacher administering the check. Some of the words are 'real' words that the children may have seen before such as 'chip' and some of the words are 'nonsense' words that are made up such as, 'quemp'. In past years the pass mark for the test has been thirty two words or more read correctly out of forty. However, the pass mark can be increased year upon year if the Government feel this is necessary so it really is best to aim for as high as you can!

Therefore, it is very important that all Year 1 children continue to attend school every day and that they are on time as our morning work sessions are phonics based. Please also continue to practise sound/word cards that are sent home every night. I have every confidence in all of our children and I am sure they will do the best that they can!

If you have any questions about the test please do not hesitate to come and ask me.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Drinkall

