

**Quest Phonics assessments** provide a snapshot of each child's grapheme-phoneme knowledge and their ability to decode words through blending.

The purpose of these assessments is **not to test**. They are designed to **complement ongoing observations** and give you a clear understanding of each child's knowledge and how you can best support them.

## Frequently asked questions

### What does Quest Phonics assess?

Each **Phonics** assessment contains two sections: sounds and words.

- In the 'sounds' section, children are shown a grapheme and must say its corresponding phoneme.
- In the 'words' section, children are shown a word and must blend the sounds to read the word aloud.

Each **Phonics screener** assessment replicates the structure and content of the Year 1 phonics screening check. There are two sections of 20 words, each with a mixture of pseudo-words and real words.

### How is the progression mapped?

The assessments follow the Read, Write Inc phonics progression:

#### Reception

Autumn | Set 1 Phonics (Part 1)

Spring | Set 1 Phonics (Part 2)

Summer | Set 2 Phonics

#### Year 1

Autumn | Set 3 Phonics

Spring | Sets 1, 2 and 3 Phonics

Summer | Phonics screener

### How long is the assessment?

The assessment takes approximately 5–10 minutes to administer per child.

## When should assessments be done?

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Assessments can be administered termly, at the end of a term.

## How should the assessments be administered?

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Quest Phonics assessments are designed to be delivered **one-to-one with a familiar adult**, in a calm and supportive environment where the child feels safe and confident. We recommend finding a **quiet location**, away from other children and any other distractions.

Children must be able to see either an online or physical copy of the test items. The practitioner should record the child's responses on a device as they work through the assessment.

If a child is finding the assessment excessively difficult, the practitioner should use their professional judgement to end the assessment, ensuring the experience remains positive and developmentally appropriate.

**Flexibility, encouragement and responsiveness** to the child's cues are key to capturing an authentic snapshot of their learning.

## How should the assessments be scored?

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Where widely-used alternative pronunciations are possible (as in 'ow' in 'blow' versus 'cow'), questions contain additional guidance. The practitioner should try to elicit the specified sound but may score any correct response.

If the child doesn't give a response, the practitioner should move on to the next question without selecting an answer.

## What resources do I need?

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For the assessment, you will need:

- A tablet or computer
- Physical copies of the test items (*optional*)

Phonics cards can be downloaded from [knowledge.questassessments.com](https://knowledge.questassessments.com).