



## Read Write Inc Phonics Programme

The National Curriculum requires that all children are taught phonics systematically, enabling them to learn to read, write and spell as quickly and easily as possible. At St Swithun's, we use the Read Write Inc programme. This is a structured phonics programme that begins in the Reception class and continues through Year 1 and, for most children, into Year 2. It is also relevant to older children who have gaps in their learning and is extremely effective for children for whom English is an additional language.

At St Swithun's, we begin in Saplings (Early Years) by teaching the children one way of reading and spelling with the English sounds. We give them a 'hook' to learn the sound by using pictures in the same shape as the letter. For example, 's' is represented as a snake, 'm' is represented by a mountain. This enables the children to learn to read and write the sounds easily. Children then read storybooks that are carefully matched to the spellings of the sounds they have been taught.

When children can read these stories confidently we teach them alternative ways to read and spell the same sounds. The content of the stories increases as the children learn to read and spell more sounds. The children only read books containing the sounds they already know, which means that they quickly build confidence. They practise reading the storybooks until they can read them fluently and then they take the storybook home to read to an adult at home.

Writing activities are also included and closely match the sounds being taught and practised. The later books also include grammar and vocabulary activities.

All children are taught with others who are learning the same sounds. Assessments take place every six to eight weeks and the children are re-grouped accordingly. This enables all children to work their way through the programme at an effective pace.



The Read Write Inc Phonics programme is highly successful at St Swithun's. Our children do well in the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check: we have been above the Oxfordshire and National standards for the last two years. By Year 2, the vast majority of our children are fluent readers.

We are delighted that, for the second year running we have been awarded a Read Write Inc badge. This shows that we are a "Get Reading. Keep Reading. Change Everything." school.

Ruth Miskin Training recognises that, at St Swithun's, we teach the programme with fidelity and passion – we know what it takes to make reading and writing pleasurable for our children.

This badge recognises that we:

- ✓ raise standards in reading and writing for our children;
- ✓ enable all our reading teachers to be expertly trained by Ruth Miskin Training;
- ✓ gain the latest programme updates through regular visits from our Ruth Miskin trainer;
- ✓ support some of our children in learning to read with extra one-to-one teaching every day.

We also have visits by teachers from other schools, who come to observe our excellent practice.

To visit the parent/carers' pages on the Ruth Miskin Training website, please go to: <http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/parents>