

# Phonics Teaching at Cradley

## **What is Phonics?**

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read quickly and skilfully. Children are taught **how** to recognise the sounds each individual letter makes and to identify the sounds that different combinations of letters make such as 'sh' and 'oo'. Children are taught to read by breaking down words into separate sounds or 'phonemes'. They are then taught how to blend these sounds together to read the whole word.

At Cradley CE Primary School we teach phonics, using the Read Write Inc programme. Children in reception and year 1 have 20 minutes a day of phonics provision and additional when needed. Year 2 children have spelling, grammar and reading comprehension daily. Phonics continues for year 2 children if they have not achieved their year 1 phonic screening.

## **Why Phonics?**

Research shows that when phonics is taught in a structured way, starting with the easiest sounds and progressing through to more complex sounds, it is the most effective way of teaching children to read. It is particularly helpful for children aged 5-7.

Almost all children who receive good teaching of phonics will learn the skills they need to tackle new words. They can then go on to read any kind of text fluently and confidently and for enjoyment.

## **Which Reading Scheme?**

At Cradley children learn to read through learning phonics but also tackling real books. We have a range of reading books that are levelled in line with the phonics scheme, that the children are encouraged to read daily. Alongside this we have a rigorous reading assessment that keeps track of the progress

of the children. The children are encouraged to talk about books daily including the illustrations, predict the story line, use their phonic knowledge and clues from the story to decode the words. Alongside this children are taught to read their high frequency words or red words. These are words they can't sound out and just need to learn to read.