Phonics Phase Descriptors:

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Children working within Phase 1:	 explore and experiment with sounds and words distinguish between different sounds in the environment and phonemes show awareness of rhyme and alliteration begin to <i>orally</i> blend and segment phonemes. <i>This phase is ongoing</i>
Children working within Phase 2:	 can blend CVC words orally know that words are constructed from phonemes and that phonemes are represented by graphemes know the first 19 common consonants and vowels which they can blend for reading and segment for spelling simple CVC words, for example 'sit' and 'tap' read simple captions including high frequency 'tricky' words: <i>I, the, to, go, no</i>
Children working within Phase 3:	 know one grapheme for 42 phonemes, blending and segmenting CVC words and reading and spelling simple two-syllable words and captions know letter names spell a wider range of 'tricky' words, e.g. he, she, was, you, they, all, are, her
Children working within Phase 4:	 can blend adjacent consonants in words and apply this skill when reading unfamiliar texts, e.g. spoon, cried, nest can segment adjacent consonants in words and apply this in spelling
Children working within Phase 5:	 can use alternative ways of pronouncing and spelling the graphemes corresponding to the long vowel phonemes, e.g. /oe/ o-e, o, oa, ow in hope, go, goat, show can read phonically decodable two-syllable and three-syllable words, e.g. bleating, frogspawn, shopkeeper can spell complex word using phonically plausible attempts
Children working within Phase 6:	 apply their phonic skills and knowledge to recognise and spell an increasing number of complex words are secure with less common grapheme-phoneme correspondences, for example s/zh/ can recognise phonic irregularities