

## **Phonics**

At Hill Avenue Academy we are committed to the delivery of excellence in a child's early reading journey. We aim to develop each child so that they are able to read with fluency as well as develop a love of reading that will stay with our children for all of their lives, enabling them to explore the world of knowledge.

Being able to read is one of the most important skills that children will learn during their early schooling and has far-reaching implications for lifelong confidence and well-being.

At Hill Avenue Academy we follow the systematic approach laid out through the DfE recognised Floppy's Phonics scheme. Children in the Early Years and Key Stage 1 will receive effective, high-quality daily lessons which ensures progression whilst building on prior knowledge, with targeted children receiving additional support in Key Stage 2.

The use of phonics is one of the many skills needed to be able to be a reader and writer. We aim to teach high quality phonics to ensure the children have the best start possible in reading and writing. The learning of phonics is the beginning of children's body of knowledge, skills and understanding that are an essential part of learning to read.

In order to read and understand texts children must learn to recognise/decode the words on the page. Excellent quality phonics teaching allows the child to be secure in the skills of word recognition and decoding which allows children to read fluently. This will result in children being able to read for pleasure and will allow them to move onto developing higher order reading for meaning skills. These phonic skills need to be taught systematically and involve a variety e.g. multi-sensory resources for all learners.

Our children are entitled to a Phonics curriculum which enables them to:

- gain a progressively deeper understanding of the phonetic structure of the English language.
- apply their phonic knowledge and skills to decode unfamiliar words fluently and accurately.
- read rapidly to apply what they have learned across the whole curriculum.
- create fluent readers, confident speakers and willing writers.
- develop a life-long love of reading.