

## Q&A

Is there a “Read Write Inc” APP that could help us practicing with our kids. Is it a program? Could you provide more info?

Read Write Inc is a systematic phonics program that is used in years 1-3. Read Write Inc does not have its own app but there are videos available on youtube.

For further practice, children can follow the green path in learning village or use the ‘Oxford Phonics World’ app. Although neither learning village or ‘Oxford Phonics World’ are exactly the same as the Read Write Inc phonics program, both are useful for students throughout primary.

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If my child pronounces a word incorrectly, should I correct them?

Children should be encouraged to use their phonics knowledge to sound out words where possible. Unfortunately, this isn’t always possible in English. If there are lots of new words in a book it is possible that the book is at the wrong level for your child. If there are a few new words it is a good idea to record these new words and practice saying and writing them on.

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Can you recommend any resources to help my child learn English?

All children on the SEALS program have a subscription to learningvillage.net. If you are unsure of your child’s username or password then please email their SEALS teacher.

There are lots of other different APPS and websites that aim to promote English language but we recommend that reading with your child and talking about their learning is one of the best ways to promote their confidence and skills in English.

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Do children need to memorise vocabulary while they are reading?

Each child on the SEALS program has a vocabulary book to record new vocabulary. This is a great place to record new words, a place to write translations and to practice sentences.

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How can I help siblings who are in different year groups to do their work together?

Reading together is a great way for siblings to improve their English. In the front of your child’s reading diary there are lots of questions. You can encourage them to ask each other.

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### What is AR? How can I help my child to get good score in AR?

Accelerated Read (AR) is an online program that can provides quizzes for books at a child's reading level. Children can use both ebooks and real books to access these quizzes. For each book that children read there is a set of comprehension questions to answer. By completing quizzes, children work towards their AR target. Children who enjoy reading and read regularly, become the most able and confident readers. At BSG we want all of our students to develop a love of reading and we believe that this will help their progress in all areas of the curriculum. More information on AR can be found in your child's reading diary.

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### How can I encourage my children to enjoy reading? Every time I ask them to read, they want to do something different. Making an enjoyable reading atmosphere seems to be so hard!

Great question! Here are some ideas to help encourage children to read.

Sometimes children are trying to read books that are too difficult and this can be frustrating so first make sure the books that they are reading are accessible.

Try reading in your home language. It is important to enjoy in your home language first. Comprehension skills are transferable to other languages. Children that are confident readers in their home language will be able to transfer those skills to English and will find it much more accessible and fun.

Make reading a short (around 20 minutes) and fun activity that you and your child do together. Try to ensure that there are no other distractions whilst reading (turn off the T.V, put the iPad away). Don't be afraid to read in your home language. Try to link reading to activities that your children enjoy. E.g. If your child likes art, you can draw pictures or make crafts relating to the book. If your child likes drama then you can act out parts of the story. Children can use toys or lego to recount the story or build parts of it. These kinds of activities will make children want to read with you more and more.

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### What is the most important part to pass EAL programme?

The SEALS program is designed to help your child access the mainstream curriculum. As such, it is not a program that can be passed or failed. Each year group has an EAL language specialist who help plan and teach your child's lessons. The EAL teacher is in regular contact with your child's class teacher and regularly discuss each child's progress. At the end of each term, the teachers will agree together whether or not a child can graduate from the SEALS program and this is only done if both teachers are sure that the child can access the curriculum without the additional support of the EAL teacher. After graduation, both teachers will monitor the progress of graduates to make sure that they are coping well without the additional support.

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