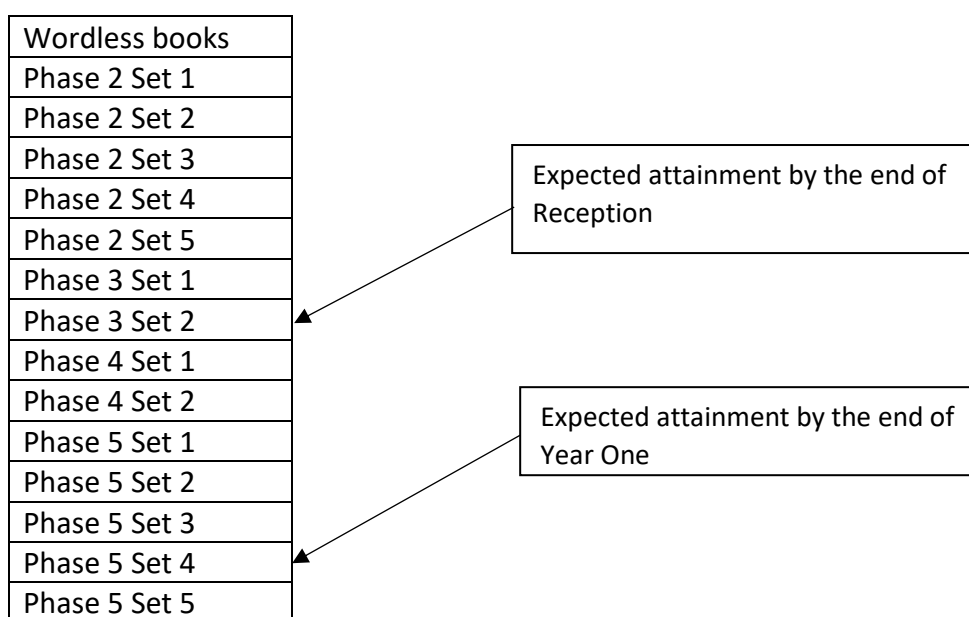


Dear Reception and Year One Parents

We are changing the way that we grade our early reading books. Previously, you will be aware that children have moved through colour banded texts as their reading progresses. In line with our new phonics scheme, Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised, pupils will now progress through phases and sets. Each set of books focuses on a group of letter sounds and some tricky words, in line with the phonics lessons we teach daily. When children move to a new set of books, additional sounds and words are introduced. The books that your child brings home will match their current reading ability and will contain letters and words which your child can read independently.

We assess reading progress every six weeks. Following these assessments, some pupils are ready to move to another set of books, as they are confident in recognising and applying the new sounds and words taught during phonics lessons, whilst others will continue to consolidate their understanding in their current set. It is not unusual for pupils to miss certain sets of books, as their reading skills can develop quickly between assessment points. The chart below shows the order of progression of our new reading system through Reception and Year One.



Children do not all learn at the same rate as readers and whilst they are acquiring the skills of blending and recognising sight words, it can seem like a slow process but this is normal. Pupils who are struggling to retain new phonic knowledge receive keep up sessions within school, involving additional targeted phonics sessions.

Our expectation is that pupils will read their school book to an adult at home at least three times a week. Little and often is the best way to practise and embed their reading skills.

We are always keen to talk to you if you have any questions or concerns about your child's reading progress. Please email your child's teacher or contact nfee@seamerirton.n-yorks.sch.uk.

Mrs Fee

Reading Leader