

Phonics

Communication is a vital part of our pupils' education and being able to read, whether that be words, signs or symbols, is an invaluable skill that allows our learners to access the world around them.

Phonics is taught through a discrete 'Letters and Sounds' lesson, sometimes split into 15minute sessions. During these sessions, phonic activities are tailored to meet the needs of our pupils. As well as other materials, the Primary National Strategy, Letters and Sounds framework, 'Acquisition of Literacy Skills-a developmental approach' by Maggie Johnson, Eastern and Coastal Kent PCT and the 'Gap House Phonological Awareness Programme', are utilised with pupils progressing through each individual phase.

However at Ashgate Croft, we recognise that not all pupils will grasp the concept of hearing, identifying and manipulating phonemes/graphemes in order to learn to read. We therefore utilise additional approaches; to develop sight reading skills and encourage exposure to exception or high frequency words.

In our school, the teaching of reading is an integral part of all our English lessons. Teachers use a range of schemes to meet the needs of individual pupils. Due to the diverse needs of our pupils, we do not follow one specific reading scheme but access materials from a range of different sources.