

5 THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE ENROLLING IN A PHONICS PROGRAMME

1

READING DOESN'T START OUT EASY

Acknowledge that reading is a challenging task for children. They are learning a multi-sensory skill from scratch, at a young age. If learning to drive can scare even the bravest dare-devils, reading is allowed to be a tad bit intimidating. Do not expect quick-fix miracles. But with proper guidance, reading will begin to feel natural and effortless.

2

NOT EVERY CHILD'S READING JOURNEY WILL BE THE SAME

Every child learns at a different pace. Some will be quicker while others will progress a little slower. The important thing is not to compare, even among siblings. Trust that your child will pick up reading in his own time with regular practice.

3

PHONICS ISN'T THE ONLY READING METHOD

But it is the best. Phonics has long been proven the most effective methodology for its ability to deconstruct words into digestible chunks. The benefits are endless - precise pronunciation, effortless spelling, etc. But do your research and find out which method gels with you best. A little trial-and-error can help you find your perfect fit.

4

THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT WAYS OF TEACHING PHONICS

There are a variety of teaching methods schools use. Some teach children to match words with pictures, while others follow a more traditional sound-based approach. Talk to different schools and find out why their method is preferred. Many schools offer trial classes specifically for this, so make use of this feature!

5

WHATEVER PROGRAMME IT IS, MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS HAVING FUN

This is often sidelined, but it is a crucial factor when deciding on the right phonics programme. Your child should be enjoying classes as much as he is learning. By setting the right tone from the start, children will be able to view learning as enjoyable and absorb lessons effectively.