



At Westmere Primary School, we use the *Read Write Inc* (RWI) programme to get children off to a flying start with reading. RWI is a synthetic phonics programme aimed at teaching children the phonetic code of the English language and designed to create fluent, confident readers. It involves children learning to read sounds and how to blend them together to read words. RWI aims to teach all children to read at a pace that they are comfortable with.

In order to blend successfully, children need to use 'pure' sounds. This means not adding an intrusive 'uh' to the end of the consonant sound. For example: 'mmm' not 'muh', 'ffffff' not 'fuh' and 'llll' not 'luh'. This can be quite difficult to begin with, but by ensuring only the pure sounds are pronounced, your child will find it much easier to *blend* the sounds to make words.

There is a video which demonstrates this on the Ruth Miskin website.

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/parents/>

Although there are only 26 alphabet letters in the English language, there are 44 sounds and then more than 150 ways to represent these sounds. A complex code indeed!

When using RWI to read the children will:

- learn 44 sounds and the corresponding letter/letter groups using simple picture prompts
- learn to read words using Fred Talk
- read lively stories featuring words they have learned to sound out
- show that they comprehend the stories by answering questions.

When using RWI to write the children will:

- learn to write the letters/letter groups which represent 44 sounds.
- learn to write words by saying the sounds in Fred Talk
- write simple sentences