

## ROCKET PHONICS – PARENT INFORMATION

### Rocket Phonics at Aston Rowant

A guide for families

At Aston Rowant, we use **Rocket Phonics**, a validated systematic synthetic phonics (SSP) programme designed to help every child learn to read confidently and enjoyably.

### What is Rocket Phonics?

Rocket Phonics is:

- A structured, step-by-step programme
- Carefully sequenced to introduce new sounds in a logical order
- Multisensory and engaging
- Fully aligned with the National Curriculum
- Proven to support rapid early reading development

Children are taught to **recognise sounds, blend to read words, and segment to spell words**, building strong foundations for reading and writing.

### What does Rocket Phonics look like in school?

- Daily phonics lessons (20–30 minutes)
- Quick review of previously taught sounds
- Introduction of a new sound
- Blending words for reading
- Segmenting for spelling
- Reading simple sentences
- Short application tasks
- Lots of speaking, listening and practical learning

Children also read Rocket Phonics decodable books matched exactly to their phonics stage.

### What are decodable books?

These are specially written to help children practise the sounds they are learning.

Our Rocket Phonics books:

- Follow the same sequence as our lessons
- Allow children to feel successful quickly
- Build confidence and fluency
- Become more complex as your child progresses
- Include stories that are engaging and age-appropriate

For older pupils needing phonics support, books include mature themes, non-fiction, adventure & mystery stories so children *never* feel embarrassed.

### How can parents help at home?

- Listen to your child read their decodable book every day
- Encourage them to blend sounds to read a word

- Model enjoyment of reading
- Celebrate small steps
- Re-read books to build fluency
- Practise tricky words

### **What happens if my child struggles with phonics?**

We believe every child can succeed.

- Children who need extra support receive short daily “keep-up” sessions
- If a child does not pass the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check, they continue receiving phonics support in Year 2
- If they still need support in Year 3 or beyond, we tailor phonics teaching creatively while keeping reading age-appropriate

Your child will *always* have books that match their phonics stage AND their maturity and interests.