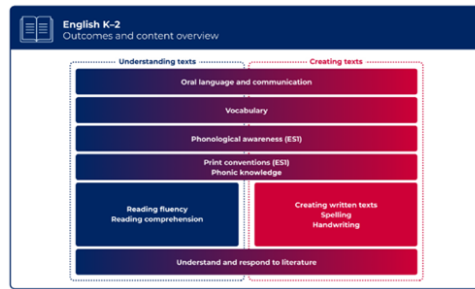


Helping your child with the new Curriculum: Taking a look at 'explicit teaching' and phonological awareness



At all times, students are at the centre of decision-making when planning and programming at Drummoyne Public School. Teachers can support student learning by incorporating evidence-based practices when designing engaging and challenging learning experiences.

'Explicit teaching' is one evidence-based practice teachers will use to support Curriculum implementation. Explicit teaching is a systematic, structured approach to instruction that involves specifically teaching students the content or skill to be learnt. It is clear and unambiguous, with a planned sequence for introducing content from simple to more complex.

Kindergarten use 'Explicit teaching' when teaching concepts within phonological awareness, as found in the new Curriculum. Phonological awareness focuses on the phonemes (sounds) within spoken words such as syllables, rhymes, segmenting (separating phonemes) and blending, to name a few!

All Kindergarten classes daily use the program 'Heggerty' to effectively and explicitly teach the content in phonological awareness for Early Stage 1. As a part of my role as Assistant Principal Curriculum & Instruction, I have the privilege of working shoulder to shoulder with all teachers to refine their teaching practices and align these with the new Curriculum.

You can help your Kindergarten child at home by:

- ★ clapping or tapping the syllables they can hear in words when reading together. For example, dog (one syllable – one clap), zeb/ra (2 syllables – 2 claps) and el/e/phant (3 syllables – 3 claps)
- ★ playing rhyming games such as starting with a base word and taking turns to say a new rhyming word. For example, the base word of hat, can be rhymed with bat, sat, mat and flat. Made-up words can also be used such as blat, lat and zat
- ★ reading or listening to nursery rhymes, songs and poetry.

To access Curriculum introductory videos from last week, follow this link for both K-2 and 3-6 English and Mathematics.

<https://curriculum.nsw.edu.au/resources/syllabus-introduction-videos>

Here is an example of how this has looked in one of the Kindergarten classrooms this week.



Above: Explicit teaching of identifying the beginning phoneme in spoken words.



Above: Explicit teaching of identifying the final phoneme in spoken words. The actions taught with the Heggerty program help support students as they are developing these skills.



Above: Explicit teaching of separating the two parts of spoken compound words.



Above: Explicit teaching of segmenting the phonemes of spoken words using the focus phonemes for the day.

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