

Phonemic awareness is an important skill when learning to read and write in any language.

A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound that you can hear in a word. It can be represented with one or more letters.

Phonemic awareness is a skill needed to effectively 'sound out' words when reading and to use as building blocks when spelling.

Some languages have more consistent phonemic building blocks than others. Both Manx and English have inconsistencies in their building blocks that can make sounding out tricky.

We have developed a new Manx phonics scheme to help the children develop good phonemic awareness in EYFS and KS1 during their immersion language phase.

We have identified 54 phonemes that make up a lot of common Manx words.

We will be teaching these in an order that lets the children start word building straight away.

When they reach KS2, they will start work on a formal English phonics scheme at an appropriate level.

You can find some common Manx words made up of their phonemes on the back of this leaflet. When we teach a phoneme, we will put a dot underneath phonemes represented by 1 letter and a dash under phonemes represented by more than 1 letter.

Phonemic awareness is just one of the reading skills that we will be teaching your child.