

# **Year 1 Phonics Check**

**User manual** 

check.literacyhub.edu.au

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# **Background**

#### Who is this manual for?

This manual is for teachers and school administrators who use the Year 1 Phonics Check. It covers how to:

- · register and create an account
- set up a class
- use the Phonics Check with your students
- run individual and group reports.

The URL for the Phonics Check is check.literacyhub.edu.au.

Find more information about the Phonics Check on the Literacy Hub.

#### What are the user roles in the Phonics Check?

There are two user roles within the Phonics Check.

**Teacher**: a user who is responsible for setting up their class and running the Phonics Check with their students. They have access to their own class reports.

**School administrator**: this user is usually the principal, deputy principal, literacy leader or Year 1 leader in their school. They are responsible for managing other Phonics Check users and have access to all classroom reports. More information about school administrators can be found on page 21 and pages 24-25.



For more help with the Year 1 Phonics Check, contact the Helpdesk.



# Account setup and support

### How do I register as a teacher?

To register as a teacher, contact your school administrator and ask to be invited. You can also go to the <u>login page</u>.

- 1. Enter your school email address and select 'Next'.
- 2. Select your education network if you are prompted to, and log in using single sign-on.
- 3. If you are not prompted to join via your education network, complete your user profile.
- 4. Enter your school details.
- 5. Set your password if you are prompted to.
- **6.** You will receive an email to activate your account. Click on the link in this email within 7 days. If the link expires, contact your school administrator or the <a href="Phonics Check Helpdesk">Phonics Check Helpdesk</a> to request a new link.

### How do I register as a school administrator?

To request school administrator access, first register as a teacher, then contact your existing school administrator to change your role. If you don't have an existing school administrator, contact the Phonics Check Helpdesk.

### How do I log in to the Phonics Check?

Once you have registered and activated your account, you will be able to log in to the Phonics Check platform using your credentials.

- 1. Go to the login page, enter your email address and select 'Next'.
- 2. Select your education network if you are prompted to and log in using single sign-on.
- 3. Otherwise, enter your password.



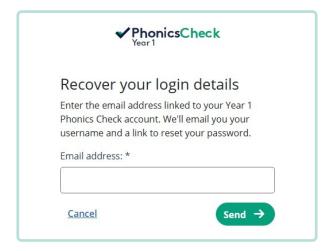


### How do I reset my password?

If you are using an educational network single sign-on, contact your education network administrator.

For all other registered users, follow these steps to recover your password.

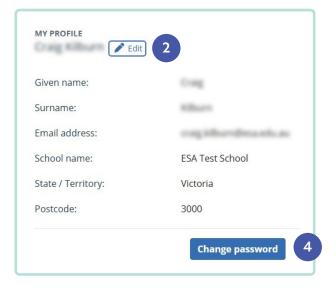
- 1. Select 'Forgot password?' on the login page.
- 2. Enter the email address you use for the Phonics Check and select 'Send'. You will receive an email with a link to reset your password.



### How do I update my profile and/or change my password?

To change your personal details or password, follow these steps.

- 1. Go to the Phonics Check login page.
- 2. Select your username in the top right-hand corner. Your username is visible on the following pages: Class, Phonics Check, Reporting, Settings and Support.
- 3. Select 'Edit' to update your profile details.
- 4. Select 'Change password' to update your password.







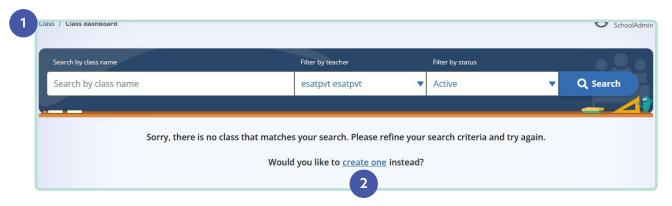
# **Prepare for the Phonics Check**

#### How do I create a class?

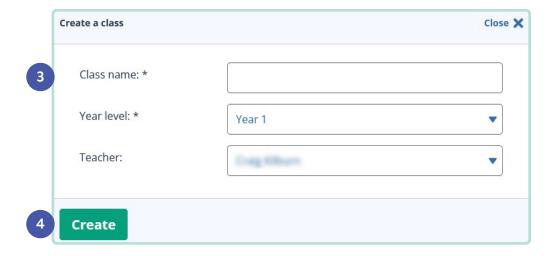
Your jurisdiction or sector may have organised the upload of your class data. If so, you do not need to complete this step; contact your jurisdiction or sector if you are unsure.

If there is no planned data upload, you will need to create a class.

- 1. Select 'Class' from the left-hand menu.
- 2. Select 'create one' from the on-screen text, or use 'Create class' at bottom right.



- 3. Enter class name, year level and teacher.
- 4. Select 'Create'.



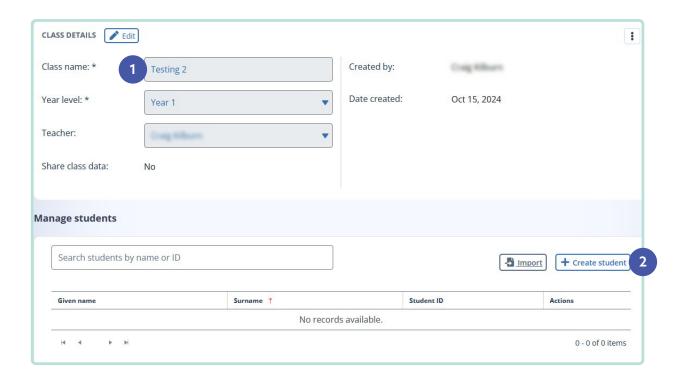


### How do I add students to a class?

There are two methods to add your students to a class. Use Method 1 (below) to add students one at a time. Use Method 2 (page 8) to add multiple students at once, through spreadsheet import.

#### Method 1: Add students individually

- 1. Create a class following the steps on page 6. Click on the class name to open it.
- 2. Select 'Create student'.



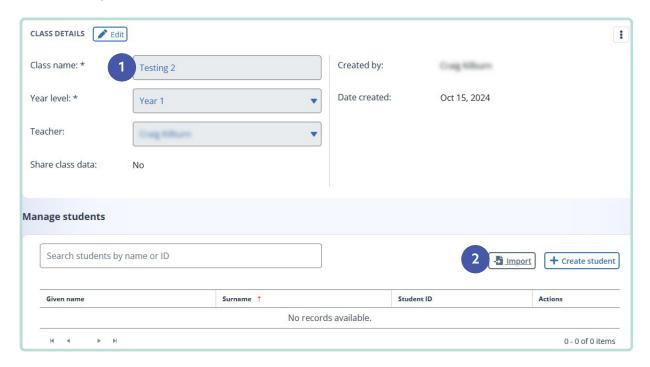
3. Enter the student's first name, last name (optional) and student ID (optional). Select 'Save'. Repeat for all students.





#### Method 2: Add students by spreadsheet import

- 1. Create a class following the steps on page 6. Click on the class name to open it.
- 2. Select 'Import'.



- 3. Select 'Download the template' to access the spreadsheet; save it to your computer as a .csv file.
- **4.** Complete the spreadsheet, taking care not to change column names or order of columns; ensure it is still saved as a .csv file.



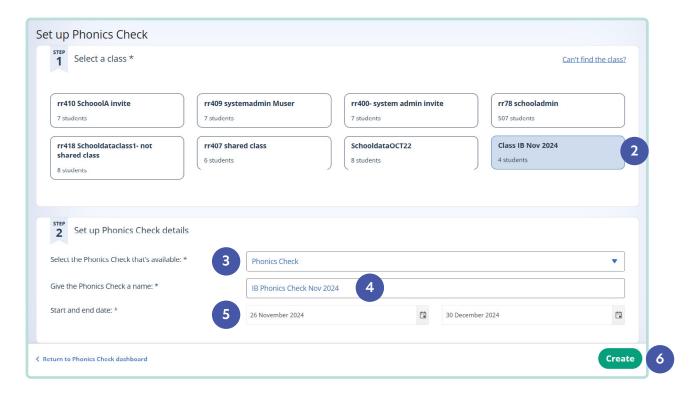
- 5. To upload the file, select 'Browse' and choose the spreadsheet from the location where you saved it.
- **6.** Select 'Validate and upload'. If the spreadsheet is rejected, check that it does not contain characters with accents, one-letter names or extra columns.





### How do I set up a Phonics Check?

1. From 'Phonics Check' on the left-hand menu, select 'Set up Phonics Check'.



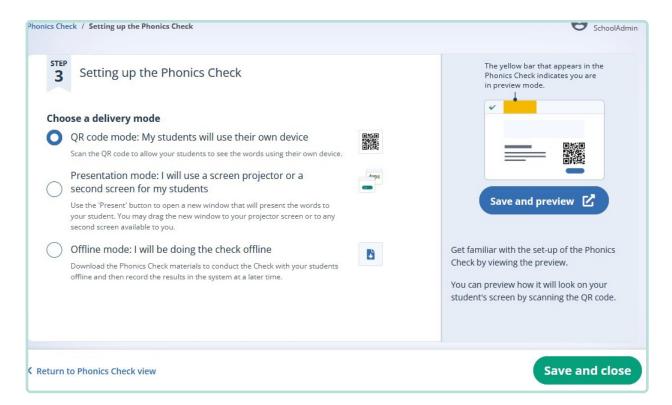
- 2. Select the class you would like to create the Phonics Check for.
- 3. Fill in the details box for your Phonics Check. For the first box, choose 'Phonics Check'.
- **4.** Enter a name for your Phonics Check. It is best to name your Phonics Check with the class name and year, e.g. 1B 2024.
- 5. Select start and end dates; these are the start and end dates for the period of the Phonics Check.
- 6. Select 'Create'.
- 7. Select the delivery mode according to what works best for you and your student. Read more about each mode on pages 10–14.
  - a. QR code mode: student and teacher are on different devices (page 11).
  - **b.** Presentation mode: student and teacher are using two screens operating from the same device (page 12).
  - c. Offline mode: the student uses a printed version of the Phonics Check. The teacher enters the data into the Phonics Check platform as the student completes the test, or records results on paper and enters them into the Phonics Check platform later (page 13).
- 8. Select 'Save and close'.



# **Conducting a Phonics Check**

### How do I choose a mode and get started?

- 1. Select 'Phonics Check' on the left-hand menu, and select the Phonics Check you would like to start.
- 2. Search for a student in the class by name or ID.
- 3. Select 'Start now'. The Phonics Check session will begin based on the delivery mode. Instructions for each mode are below.
  - a. QR code mode
  - b. Presentation mode
  - c. Offline mode



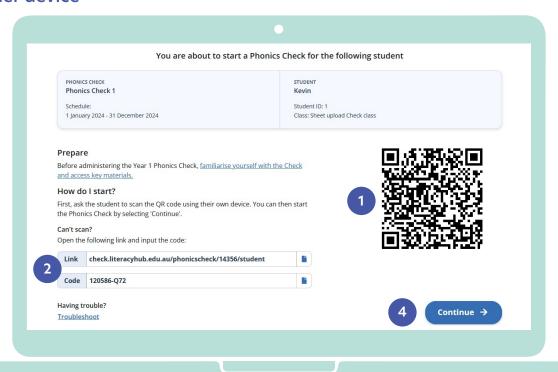




#### **QR** code mode

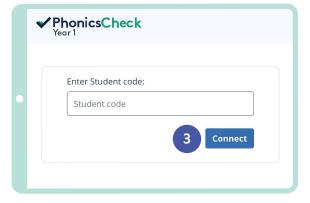
- 1. Ask your student to use their own device to scan the QR code displayed on your screen; or you may need to scan the code for them.
  - If your student has difficulty scanning the QR code or you are conducting the Phonics Check remotely, follow Step 2; otherwise, move to Step 4.
- 2. Copy the link and code. Send them to your student to connect from the browser on their device.
- 3. The student selects 'Connect'.

#### Teacher device



#### Student device





**4.** Select 'Continue' on your own device when you see a message telling you that your student is connected.

Continue to 'How do I conduct a Phonics Check with a student?'

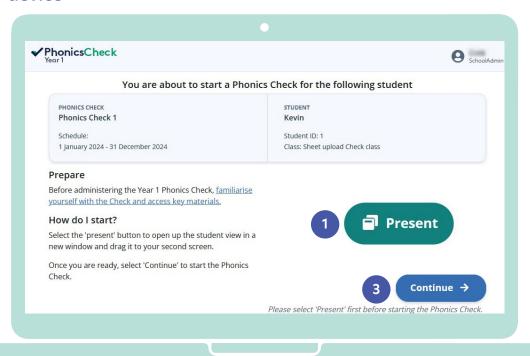




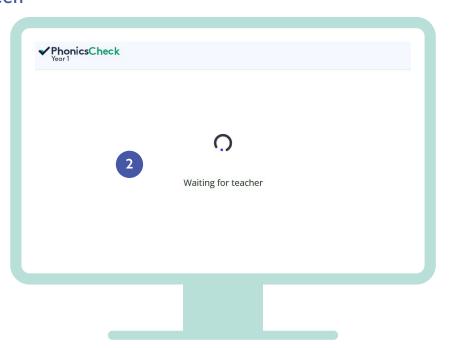
#### **Presentation mode**

- 1. Select 'Present'. This will allow you to open the student's display on your own device.
- 2. Drag the student's display onto a second screen to present to your student.

#### **Teacher device**



#### Student screen



3. Select 'Continue' on your own device.

Continue to 'How do I conduct a Phonics Check with a student?'



#### Offline mode

- 1. Select 'Download materials'.
- 2. Print the student materials and the answer sheet before you begin. For more information about how to use these documents, visit Administering the Phonics Check.
- 3. Select 'Enter result' during the Phonics Check to add results into the online platform as you go. Or, collect results on a hard-copy scoring sheet and enter all results on the online platform once the Phonics Check is completed.

Continue to 'How do I conduct a Phonics Check with a student?'

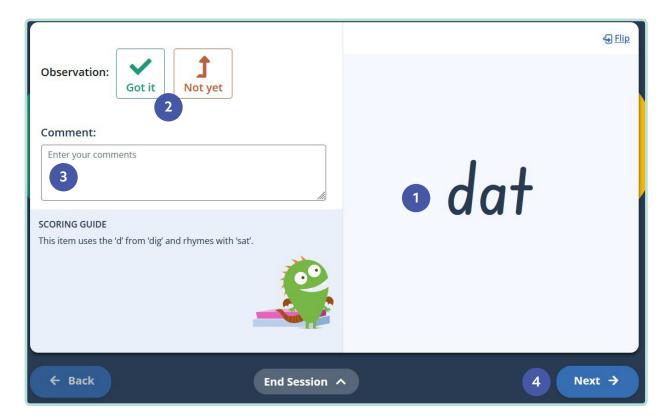




#### How do I conduct a Phonics Check with a student?

1. Ask the student to read aloud the words that they see on their screen or printed materials.

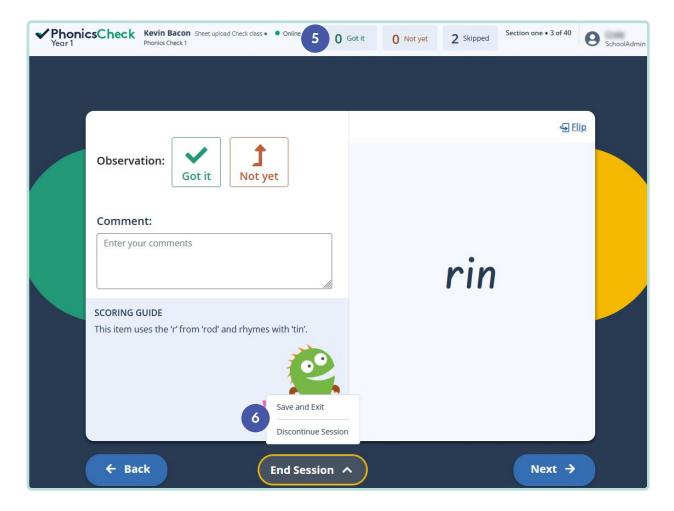
Some words have a drawing of a monster next to them; these are made-up (pseudo) words.



- 2. Select 'Got it!' or 'Not yet' according to the student's responses. If you choose to skip a question, just press 'Next' to move on.
- 3. Use the comment box to record your observations.
- **4.** Select 'Next' to move to the next word. If you are using QR code mode or presentation mode, your student's display will also move to the next word.



5. The platform counts the number of 'Got it!', 'Not yet' and 'Skipped' responses as the student completes the Phonics Check. You may skip words by choosing 'Next' if a student is particularly challenged by the task and you wish to stop the assessment. You must skip through to the end of the Phonics Check in order to submit the results.



- 6. If you choose to end the Phonics Check before completing all 40 words, there are two options:
  - **Save and exit.** This saves the current Phonics Check result and allows you to come back and resume at any time, from the point where you left it.
  - **Discontinue session.** This discards the current Phonics Check results. You can then restart with a completely new Phonics Check.

If you accidentally close your browser window, the current Phonics Check result is saved; open a new window, log in again and resume the Phonics Check from where you left it.





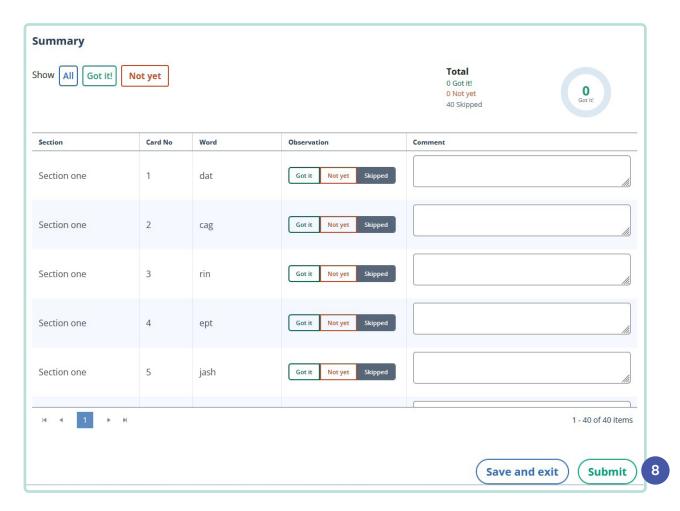
7. After you have completed the final word in the Phonics Check, review the observations and comments. You can also add overarching comments in the 'Class teacher general comments' box.



8. Select 'Submit' to lodge the results and generate a report for the student.

Or, select 'Save and exit'. Come back later to review the results and submit.

The action of submitting results is final; no further changes can be made to a record once you submit.







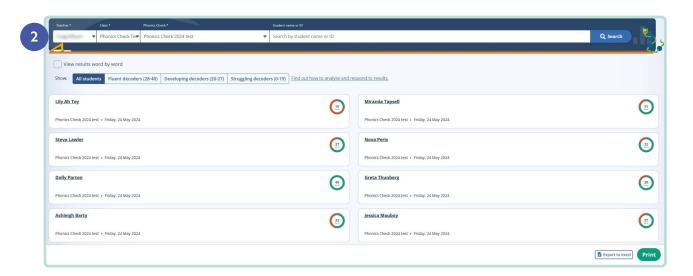
# Reports

### What reports can teachers run?

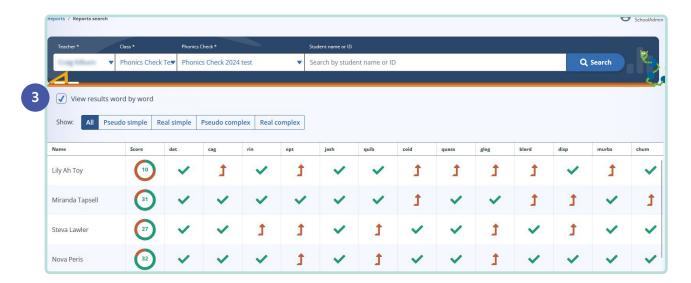
For information on reports for school administrators, see pages 24-25.

You can run reports on Phonics Check results for your own students, either for one student or for a whole class. You can also run Phonics Checks and view results for a class that another teacher has shared with you (see page 19).

- 1. Select 'Reporting' from the left-hand menu.
- Select a teacher name, class or Phonics Check name from the search filters; this will show
  all available classes and Phonics Checks for that teacher. The student results for the currently
  selected Phonics Check will automatically be displayed in the results field at the bottom
  of the screen.



3. Select 'View results word by word' for a snapshot of the class results for each word.



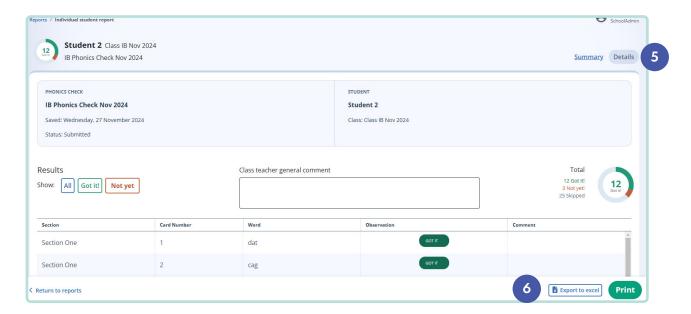


**4.** To view results for a student, click on the box with the student's name. This will show you a graphical summary of their results.





- 5. Select 'Details' to see the results for each word, along with any comments.
- **6.** Click 'Export to Excel' to view results in a spreadsheet or select 'Print' to print a graphical summary.



#### How do I share a class with other teachers?

Follow these steps to share a class with other approved teachers at your school.

- 1. Select 'Class' from the left-hand menu.
- 2. Select the class you would like to share.
- 3. In the class details box, click on 'Edit'.
- 4. Check the 'Share class data' box then save.

This will allow other approved teachers and school administrators at your school to run Phonics Checks with the students in your class and see their results.

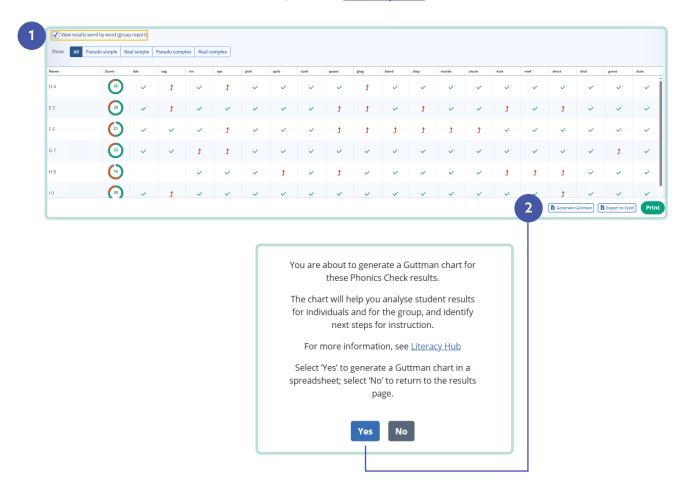


#### **Generate Guttman chart**

Once you have completed the Year 1 Phonics Check with your students, you can generate a visual representation of your data known as a Guttman chart. This can support you to analyse your data and plan next steps for instruction.

- 1. Ensure you have ticked the box 'View results word by word (group report)' to show results for the whole group or class.
- 2. Click the 'Generate Guttman' button at the bottom right of the screen.
- 3. Find the generated chart in your downloads folder.

For more information on Guttman charts, see the Literacy Hub.





# Extra actions for school administrators

School administrators have access to additional functionality in the Phonics Check, and see a slightly different version of the left-hand menu.

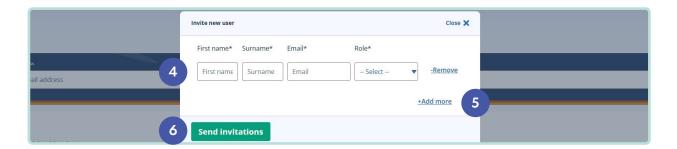


### How do I manage users?

#### Invite a new user

- 1. Go to 'Settings'.
- 2. Select 'Manage users' (top right).
- 3. Select 'Invite new user'.
- 4. Enter the email and select the role.
- 5. Select 'Add more' if you have more than one user to invite.
- 6. Select 'Send invitations'.

A system-generated invitation email will be sent to the invited user, asking them to complete their registration within 7 days.





#### Manage user access

Note: classes and Phonics Checks for unapproved teachers will not appear for school administrators. A teacher must first be approved before their classes and Phonics Checks are visible.

School administrators can manage the access of registered users by following these steps.

- 1. Go to 'Settings'.
- 2. Select 'Manage users' (top right).
- **3.** Select 'Approve' to complete a user's registration with your school. Or, select 'Reject' for any users who should not have access.
- **4.** Select 'Deactivate' to remove any users who are no longer running Phonics Checks at your school.
- 5. If a user has previously been deactivated, select 'Activate' to renew their access to Phonics Checks at your school.
- 6. Select 'Edit role' to change a user's access level (e.g. to give them school administrator access).
- 7. Select 'Resend invitation' if a previously invited teacher did not click the email link within 7 days.







#### **Delete student results**

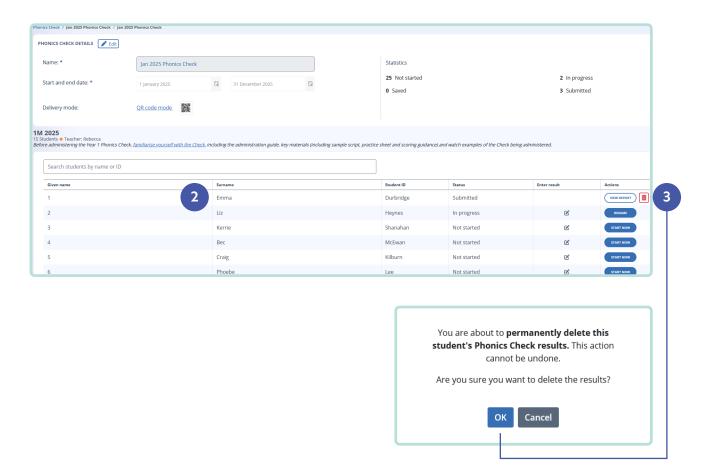
School administrators can quickly delete Phonics Check results for an individual student. This functionality is useful if results have been added incorrectly for a particular student and need to be corrected.

- 1. Log in to the Year 1 Phonics Check and navigate to the 'Phonics Check' section of the platform (on the left navigation panel).
- 2. Find the student's class and then the student's name within that class.
- 3. Click on the delete icon; click OK to confirm your choice.

Note that once these results have been deleted, they cannot be reinstated.

The school administrator and the student's teacher (and any teachers who also have access to the results of that class) receive an email to confirm the deletion.

A new Phonics Check can now be conducted for that student.





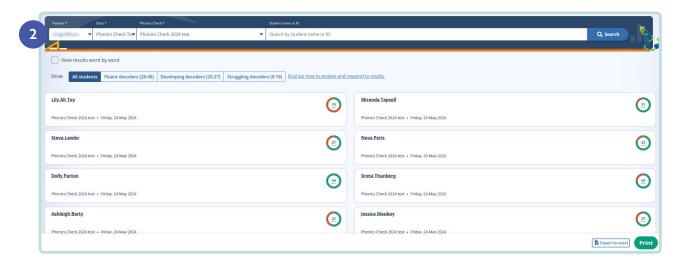


### What reports can school administrators run?

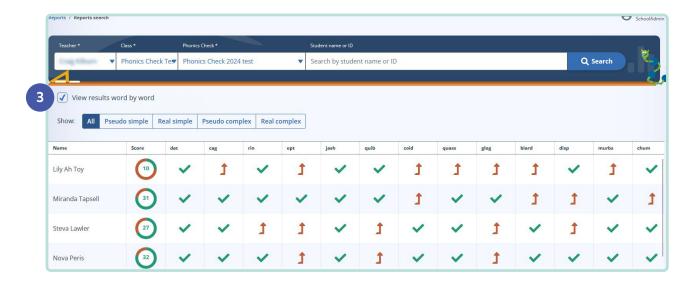
#### Individual and group reports

School administrators can run reports on Phonics Check results for any classes allocated to approved teachers or other administrators, either for one student or for a whole class.

- 1. Select 'Reporting' from the left-hand menu.
- 2. Select a teacher name, class or Phonics Check name from the search filters; this will show all available classes and Phonics Checks for that teacher. The student results for the currently selected Phonics Check will automatically be displayed in the results field at the bottom of the screen.



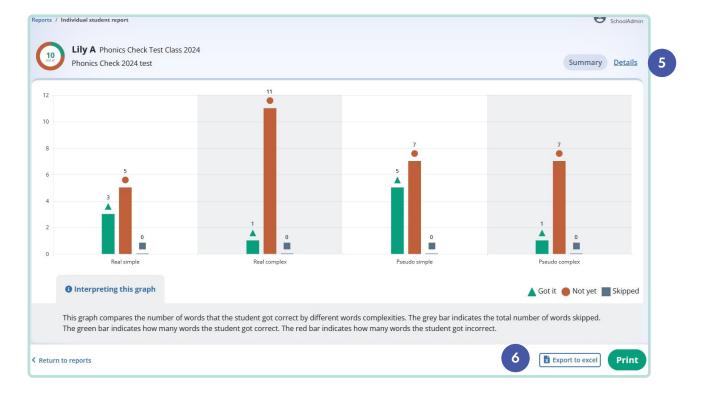
3. Select 'View results word by word' for a snapshot of the class results for each word.







**4.** To view results for a student, select the box with the student's name. This will show you a graphical summary of their results.



- 5. Click 'Details' to see the results for each word, along with any comments.
- **6.** Select 'Export to Excel' to view results in a spreadsheet or select 'Print' to print a graphical summary.

### **Multi-class reports**

School administrators can run a report on all Phonics Checks submitted for the whole school for the current school year.

- 1. Select 'Multi-class report' from the left-hand menu.
- 2. Select 'Export to Excel'. The status table on the screen will let you know when your report is ready for download. You will also receive an email to let you know that the report is ready. Note that downloads will be available for 7 days after report generation.

