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**Please ask for:** Nick Beech



Mark Cooper  
Headteacher  
St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School  
Aqua Drive  
Hampton Water  
Peterborough  
PE7 8QL

Children and Young People Services  
School Improvement Team  
Sand Martin House  
Bittern Way, Fletton Quays  
Peterborough  
PE2 8TY

10<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Mark,

**Re: Outcomes of statutory Year 1 Phonics Screening Check in 2024**

I hope you have had a good summer and the children have settled well into school.

I am writing to you regarding the outcomes of the statutory Year 1 Phonics Screening Check in 2024.

It was pleasing to note the improvement in the proportion of pupils achieving the expected standard in the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check in 2024. Your Phonics Leader, EYFS and KS1 team have worked hard to improve outcomes by 24% compared to that achieved in 2023 and to not only close the gap to the national average, but to exceed it by 9 percentage points.

Given the very strong correlation nationally between achieving the expected standard in Phonics at the end of Year 1 and the expected standard in reading at the end of Key Stage 2, I am sure you will continue to focus on phonics and sustaining these very pleasing results in 2025 and perhaps build on them even further.

Finally, I am attaching the Nexus Report on Phonics for St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School which makes clear the improvements made this year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nick Beech".

**NICK BEECH**  
**HEAD OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT**

**Cc.** Chair of Governors Flavio Vettese  
SIA Beci McCaughran