

THRASS® ENGLISH PHONICS CHART PROGRAMME

Skills Drill Workshop (9.00-3.30pm)



120 keywords to help learners **choose the right sounds** when they read **and the right letters** when they spell.

All delegates receive a clear plastic wallet containing the S-80 The English Keywords Book (the most important EPCP resource) and three encapsulated tumble turn charts (the S-79 English Phonics Chart, S-81 Keyspelling Overwrite Chart and S-83 English Keyspellings Chart A5).

The English Phonics Skills Drill (explained on pages 6-7 of the S-80 book) is suitable for learners of all ages and abilities, including young children and those learning English as an additional language. It is used with individuals, groups, classes, year groups or whole schools. During the workshop, delegates (most often teachers, teaching assistants, speech therapists, parents, student teachers and/or adult tutors) practise the actions and wording in each phase until they are familiar with all eight phases.

Throughout the workshop, the focus is very much on: **“Always encourage your learner/s to speak clearly and to be as accurate as possible in their pronunciation and pointing”** and on each member of staff being consistent in their teaching of English Phonics, so that learners gain **“good knowledge of the keyspellings and non-keyspellings of English and their sounds”**.

The “Skills Drill” is taught using The English Keyspellings Chart A3, on pages 26-27 (the centre pages) of the book. The chart is divided into a consonant section and a vowel section. The consonant section has 24 sound-boxes. The vowel section has 20 sound-boxes. Through using the chart, learners are taught that English has 44 sounds, of which 24 are consonants and 20 are vowels. The chart also teaches learners that English has 120 keyspellings, of which 60 are consonant keyspellings and 60 are vowel keyspellings. Each of the 60 consonant keyspellings ‘lives’ in one of the 24 consonant sound-boxes and is shown using large blue letters. Each of the 60 vowel keyspellings ‘lives’ in one of the 20 vowel sound-boxes and is shown using large red letters. Each of the keyspellings is also shown in bold letters. The keywords help learners to remember the keyspellings and their location, or ‘home’, on the chart. Through using the chart, learners gain a good knowledge of the spellings and sounds in words. They learn that the letters of the English alphabet do not represent only one sound and that, even in the most basic of words, English letters represent different sounds, either as **1-1 (One to one), 2-1 (Two to one), 3-1 (Three to one) or 4-1 (Four to one) spellings**. They learn to look for groups of letters to read and spell - consonant clusters, rhymes, rimes and syllables.

EPCP includes being able to perform the “Skills Drill”, read word-for-word the keywords questions in the S-80 book, and read and spell the 500 basewords of English. As a whole, the programme teaches learners to read words by sight and to focus on their meaning. It also teaches them the skills needed to predict and remember the spelling-sound relationships in words that they cannot read and spell, through using a good and thorough knowledge of the keyspellings and non-keyspellings of English.

THE COST FOR A ONE-DAY WORKSHOP

10 delegates = £600 + VAT (£60 per head)
20 delegates = £1000 + VAT (£50 per head)
30 delegates = £1350 + VAT (£45 per head)
40 delegates = £1600 + VAT (£40 per head)
50 delegates = £1750 + VAT (£35 per head)

The minimum number of delegates is ten (10). You will also need to allow for **Travel Expenses** (charged at 45p per mile + VAT), for a round trip from Chester, Cheshire, to your school. We do not charge for the overnight accommodation.

OPEN OR CLOSED WORKSHOPS

Some schools choose to host a workshop and open it to visiting delegates. For this option we offer the host school a **£40 reduction** in the overall cost **for each external delegate** (each pays £120 + VAT). All the paperwork for external delegates is handled by THRASS UK. A ‘good’ date is needed for this option, avoiding holiday dates in neighbouring Local Authorities. The host school provides the refreshments and lunch for visiting delegates and the presenter. We can provide costs **for numbers larger than 50** (at a reduced rate per delegate), **for large schools or clusters**.