



# Spotlight on LEARNING

## Structured Approach to Literacy



Redwood School



### What is a

STRUCTURED APPROACH TO LITERACY?

A structured approach to literacy is an approach to teaching early literacy that is:

- Systematic and cumulative - learning follows a specific order, starting with simple concepts and building in complexity
- Based on explicit and direct teacher-led instruction

It focuses on:

- Phonology - the sound structure of spoken language
- Phonics - mapping sounds (phonemes) to letters and letter combinations (graphemes)
- Vocabulary - words and their meanings, synonyms and antonyms
- Morphology - understand base words, prefixes and suffixes
- Syntax - understanding grammatical sentence structures
- Spelling - common spelling patterns and rules



### Why it's

IMPORTANT?

A structured approach to literacy aligns with the Science of Reading, supporting ākonga to learn 'the code' of reading and writing. It can be highly effective for students with dyslexia or other learning challenges in literacy. It supports ākonga to work out words based on letter and sound knowledge rather than guessing based on pictures. Ākonga use decodable texts to become confident with identifying and blending letter sounds they have acquired along the scope and sequence. For older ākonga a structured approach to Literacy has a greater focus on spelling patterns and morphology to support greater accuracy in their writing, as well as being able to decode more complex words.



### What about

OTHER FORMS OF READING, WRITING?

As well as a Structured Approach to Literacy, ākonga are still taught to engage with other forms of text and participate in guided reading sessions. Ākonga are also taught explicit writing styles and techniques following our writing process focussing on aspects such as planning, drafting, editing, and revising.



### Links to

RED

A structured approach to Literacy enables ākonga to develop **RESPONSIBILITY** by being more confident as a learner. Ākonga are **EMPOWERED** with the knowledge of themselves as a literacy learner and are encouraged to set goals, identify milestones and monitor their progress. These are critical skills to develop **DRIVEN LIFELONG LEARNERS**.

