

Module Eight:

The use of various
Alphabetic Code Charts
and sensible pace
for introducing the
letter/s-sound correspondences

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Module Eight: Part 1

a) Teaching the alphabetic code as a code

To consider the *terminology* used based on teaching a CODE, and how to present alphabetic code information to learners and their parents and carers

To understand the rationale of a generic structure for Alphabetic Code Charts and their potential variety and scope

To understand that Alphabetic Code Charts are important tools of accountability

Teach the alphabetic
code **AS A CODE** and use
terminology based on
the alphabetic **code**



“It is what it is”

Code-based terminology is suitable for all ages and phonics is lifelong. Code-based language replaces common expressions such as:

“This letter *makes* the /a/ sound.”

“This letter *says* its name.”

“These letters *say* /sh/.”

“It is what it is”

“These letters *say* /sh/.”

This presents a babyish image for phonics.

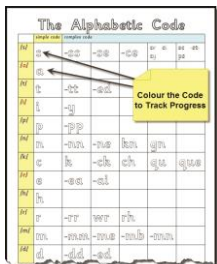
Why persist in using infant language to teach the most complex alphabetic code in the world?

“It is what it is”

There are no specific ‘*silent letters*’ because **all** letters are silent!

Letters say nothing,
and no letters make sounds!

Versions of Alphabetic Code Charts



Graphemes without key words



EYSP: Pictures prompt the sounds



EYSP: Pictures to show what the word examples 'are'

Versions of Alphabetic Code Charts



International Phonetic Alphabet



Various information and training charts



Various 'mini' charts

Versions of Alphabetic Code Charts

Ready-made charts



A4 Table Top Chart



A3 Tough Mat



Giant Charts

Versions of Alphabetic Code Charts



Giant wall display chart



ready-made charts

Oxford Reading Tree
Floppy's Phonics
Sounds and Letters
A3 Table Top chart



photocopiable

Mini chart in *Planning, Assessment & Resources Handbook*

The Alphabetic Code Chart makes the code **tangible**

- capable of being touched or felt
- capable of being clearly grasped by the mind
- having a physical existence



Advantages of The Alphabetic Code Chart

Knowledge:

The Alphabetic Code Chart demonstrates the **rationale** between speech sounds and letters or letter groups (graphemes or 'spelling alternatives').

- Shared knowledge to train/support the adults
- **Work-in-progress** for the learners

Shared universally:

- **Use liberally:** e.g. in learners' **personal clip folders**, send a copy home **to parents**, include it in the **staff handbook**, the school's **brochure** and in the **literacy policy** (information and accountability)
- **Display** the large poster version of the *Alphabetic Code Chart* prominently in the **school entrance** and in **every classroom**