

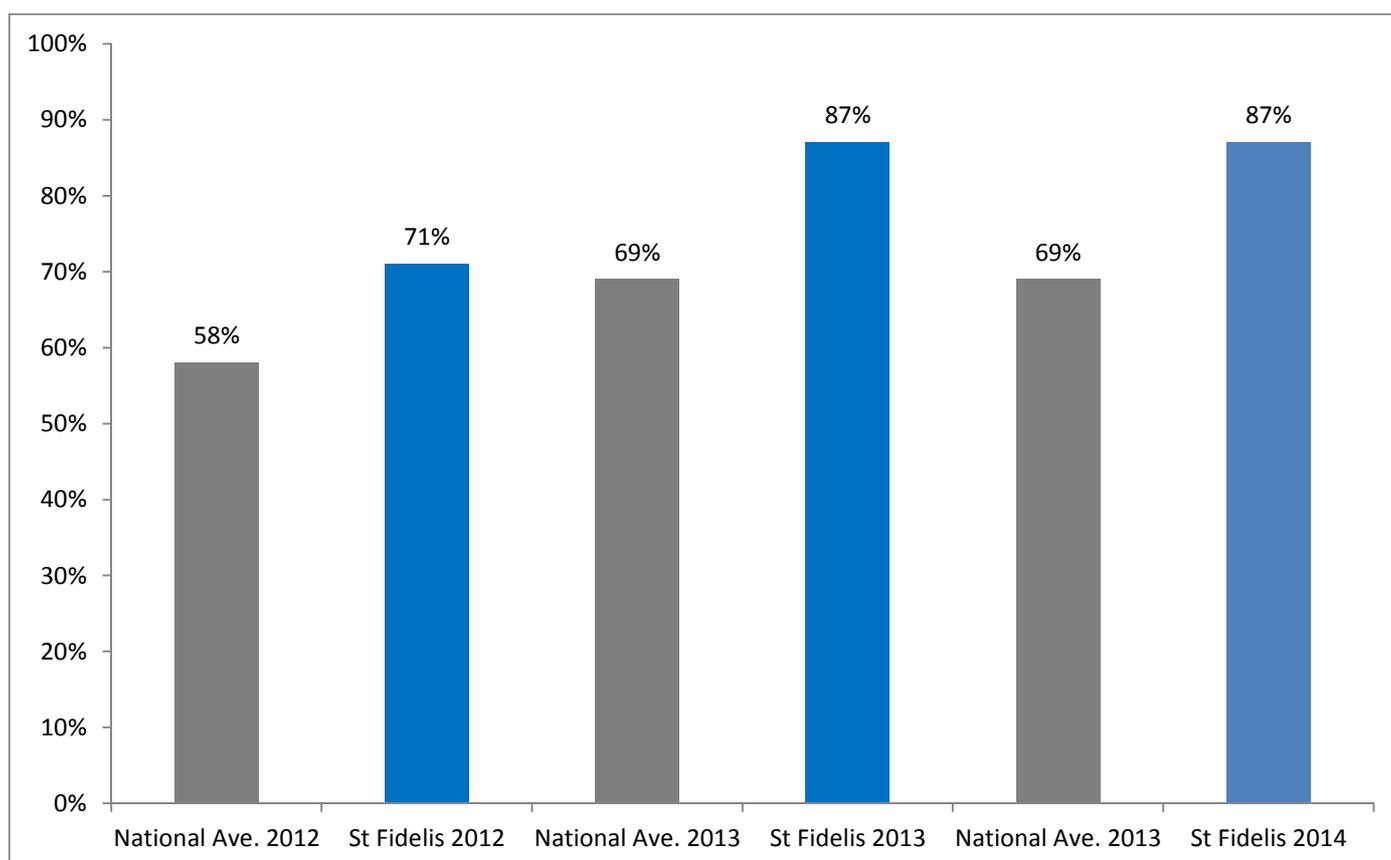


## Year 1 Phonics

All children across the country are tested on their phonic knowledge at the end of Year 1 in order to establish if they have reached a designated standard. Phonics is a way of teaching children to read quickly and skilfully. They are taught how to:

- recognise the sounds that each individual letter makes;
- identify the sounds that different combinations of letters make - such as 'sh' or 'oo'; and
- blend these sounds together from left to right to make a word.

Children can then use this knowledge to 'de-code' new words that they hear or see. This is the first important step in learning to read.



St Fidelis' phonic results are well above average compared to national averages. The school is particularly delighted that by the end of Year 2 the vast majority of pupils have reached the required standard in phonics.

All children in Reception and Year 1 receive daily high quality phonic sessions as a class. Those children who find it more difficult to learn this phonetic knowledge are supported by additional daily intervention sessions led by a trained teaching assistant (for Year 1 pupils) and an experienced teacher (for Year 2 pupils).

As a consequence of all of the above, children in St Fidelis make outstanding progress in phonics and quickly learn to become independent readers, which is a central skill that children need to acquire in order to make progress across all areas of learning.