

Appendix 1

Speaking and Listening

Children become speakers and listeners before they can read and write. A child cannot recognise words if s/he has never heard them, nor can s/he write if s/he cannot verbalise his/her ideas confidently and clearly.

Speaking and listening activities are embedded throughout the curriculum. It is an integral part of EYFS practice. The National Curriculum 2014 gives clear guidance on incorporating Speaking and Listening into planning through specific speaking, group discussion and listening tasks. Throughout the school day, children are involved in:-

- Listening to talk
- Asking and answering questions
- Play where fictional roles are explored, including puppets
- Small/large group story reading
- Guided reading activities
- Assemblies
- Drama
- Circle Time
- SEAL activities
- Following instructions
- Verbalising and offering their ideas in a variety of situations
- Responding to literature- poetry and story
- Reading/reciting poetry and rhymes out loud
- Reading out their own work

This list is not conclusive, as speaking and listening underpins everything that takes place in school. Therefore it is the role of the *teacher* and other supporting adults to provide opportunities for children to become confident communicators by:-

- Planning for speaking and listening;
- Providing a stimulating environment which arouses children's interest and curiosity
- Speaking clearly;
- Listening to what children have to say;
- Encouraging debate, discussion and role play;
- Valuing and building upon pupils' contributions;
- Using resources effectively;
- Using a variety of approaches;
- Providing good role models;
- Giving all children equal opportunities to develop their language skills.

Through good teaching *children* will:-

- Feel that their ideas are valued even if they differ from others;
- Appreciate the opinions of others;
- Speak aloud clearly and with confidence for the appropriate audience;
- Verbalise their ideas in a variety of situations;
- Communicate collaboratively;
- Think before they speak;
- Ask and answer questions appropriately;