

Conisbrough Ivanhoe Primary Academy



Speaking and Listening Policy 2019-2020

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At Conisbrough Ivanhoe Primary Academy, we understand that speaking and listening is a crucial and pivotal cog which underpins many other aspects of the curriculum including reading and writing. This skill helps children to develop their abilities to: explore, enquire and develop their knowledge of the school curriculum and beyond. A child's capability to communicate clearly and effectively using Standard English supports the growth of their confidence, self-esteem, achievements and thinking skills. Research has shown that children who struggled with language at the age of five, did not always reach the expected standard in their SATs tests at the end of Key Stage 2.

Aims and Objectives:

Across school, we aim to promote the highest standards of speaking and listening by encouraging and aspiring all of our children to:

- Communicate clearly, effectively and fluently using Standard English where appropriate, with adults and peers in a variety of situations and regarding a range of subjects.
- Listen attentively to the views of adults and peers and be able to respond accordingly by asking their own questions.
- Evaluate their own and their peers' speech.
- Join in with debates and discussions which help to further their learning and address any misconceptions.
- Express and explain their own thoughts, ideas, feelings and views using a rich and broad vocabulary (as set out in the Vocabulary Policy).
- Perform their own pieces using expression, volume, pace and gesture where appropriate.

School commitment:

Speaking and listening is taught at a level which is appropriate for the year group and stage of learning. Children will be given ample opportunities to develop and build on their oral language skills by: working in groups, working in pairs, one-to-one work and whole class work. From a young age, they will be taught and encouraged to take turns when conversing, listen to others and know when to appropriately participate in debates and conversations. In conjunction with our Vocabulary Policy, teachers will actively encourage children to use a rich, broad and varied vocabulary in order for them to comprehend and discuss a vast range of concepts and topics. Pupils will be given regular feedback on their oral and listening abilities to help them nurture these vital skills.

Foundation Stage:

Using the EYFS Framework, teachers and teaching assistants will cultivate opportunities for children to:

- Share personal experiences with adults and peers.
- Listen and respond to stories.
- Recall stories which have been told to them without the use of props or stories.
- Role play activities which are independent, planned or themed.
- Participate in free-flow activities in which children are allowed to pursue their own interests.

Key Stage 1 and 2:

Speaking and listening skills will continue to be developed throughout school with opportunities interwoven into all areas of the curriculum. These opportunities will manifest themselves through using such strategies as:

- Drama.
- Presentations including within class (individual or group work) or class assemblies within their Key Stage.
- Talk partners.
- Participation in school groups including School Council and Book Clubs.

In addition to these opportunities, across school all pupils will take part in the annual event 'No Pens Day Wednesday' in order to celebrate – and highlight the importance of – different forms of communication aside from writing.

Additional Support

Pupils with Special Educational Needs may need extra support to nurture and develop speaking and listening skills, including children who experience: articulation or word finding difficulties or delayed language acquisition. In these specific cases, additional help from Speech and Language professionals will be put into place in order to ensure these children do not fall behind and are able to access the curriculum at the same rate as their peers.

Children joining Ivanhoe Academy with English as an additional language will be monitored closely and additional language support provided as and when their needs require it.