

Spoken Language

At Glebe Primary School, teachers provide a wide range of contexts for spoken language throughout the school day. Teachers, and other adults in school, model how to speak clearly. This includes clear diction, reasoned argument, using imaginative and challenging language and use of Standard English. Listening is modelled, as is the appropriate use of non-verbal communication, respecting the views of others. Teachers are also sensitive in encouraging the participation of reserved or reticent children.

Spoken Language outcomes are planned for in all areas of the curriculum. Roles are shared amongst pupils: sometimes a pupil will be the questioner, presenter, etc.

Learning takes place in a variety of situations and group settings. For example, these could include reading aloud as an individual, taking part in a debate, working collaboratively on an investigation, reporting findings as a newscaster, interviewing people as part of a research project, acting as a guide for a visitor to school or responding to a text in shared or guided reading.

Spoken Language will be a focus across the curriculum and across the school day in a variety of settings.

Children:

- Feel their ideas and opinions are valued;
- Listen to verbal instructions which are clear;
- Offer ideas and opinions which may differ from others;
- Verbalise ideas in a variety of situations;
- Ask and answer questions appropriately;
- Think before they speak - plan out responses;
- Appreciate opinions of others;
- Speak aloud with confidence for the appropriate audience;
- Communicate collaboratively.

Teachers:

- Plan for speaking and listening;
- Speak clearly;
- Listen;

- Consider oral outcomes;
- Encourage discussion, debate and role play;
- Value and build on pupils' contributions;
- Understand how to develop skills progressively;
- Use resources effectively;
- Set realistic goals;
- Use different approaches.

Spoken Language - How you can help!

The New National Curriculum reflects the importance of spoken language in pupils' development across the whole curriculum.

Spoken language underpins the development of reading and writing.

Pupils will be taught to understand and use the conventions of discussion and debate in addition to drama activities.

You can help at home by:

- Looking, listening to and responding appropriately to your child.
e.g. Ask what they enjoyed most about school today, ask questions about their response.
- Try to ask relevant questions in order to expand their vocabulary.
- As much as possible, encourage your child to use the correct Standard English.
e.g. 'because' instead of 'cos'; 'should have' instead of 'should of';
'getting off the bus' instead of 'getting off of the bus'.
- Discuss when it is appropriate to use Standard English and when perhaps not.
e.g. in a casual peer-group situation.
- Encourage discussions to share opinions and appreciate other viewpoints about topical issues.

Key website:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/schoolradio/subjects/drama>