



## Speaking and Listening Policy at Haydn Primary School

“Reading and writing float on a sea of talk.” James Britton

### The National Curriculum

The National Curriculum for English reflects the importance of spoken language in pupils' development across the whole curriculum – cognitively, socially and linguistically. Spoken language underpins the development of reading and writing. The quality and variety of language that pupils hear and speak are vital for developing their vocabulary and grammar and their understanding for reading and writing. Teachers should therefore ensure the continual development of pupils' confidence and competence in spoken language and listening skills. Pupils should develop a capacity to explain their understanding of books and other reading, and to prepare their ideas before they write. They must be assisted in making their thinking clear to themselves as well as to others, and teachers should ensure that pupils build secure foundations by using discussion to probe and remedy their misconceptions. Pupils should also be taught to understand and use the conventions for discussion and debate.

### Haydn Primary School

At Haydn Primary School, the curriculum is rich in oracy opportunities for our children. With knowledge and skills, experiences and vocabulary at its core, we are committed to using purposeful talk to drive forward learning. We do this through opportunities which have been planned, modelled, scaffolded and structured to enable all learners to develop the skills needed to talk effectively and with confidence both in and outside school. Our deliberate and explicit teaching of oracy throughout the curriculum supports our children to make progress in the four strands of oracy. We see it as essential that children acquire the ability to be able to speak coherently and politely in their everyday experiences, to communicate their thoughts effectively and with confidence beyond the school gates.

All children participate in whole school enrichment experiences to develop their speaking and listening skills further as well as in lessons.

See Speaking and Listening progression map in the curriculum folder on the website.

### **Intent**

All children at Haydn should be able to:

Communicate effectively in varying situations/contexts, speaking with increasing confidence, clarity and fluency

Participate in discussions and debate in a variety of contexts

Actively listen to the views, opinions and ideas of others with increased interest

Articulate ideas and thoughts clearly with appropriate tone and vocabulary recognising audience  
Respond to questions and opinions appropriately  
Retell stories and poems which are known by heart  
Ask questions with increasing relevance and insight  
Have an interest in words and their meanings with a growing vocabulary  
Listen carefully in discussion making contributions and asking questions  
Learn and use a range of drama strategies and conventions

## **Implementation**

Children at Haydn Primary School are encouraged to develop and enhance their communication skills across the whole curriculum. They are given opportunities to:

- Listen and respond appropriately to adults and peers
- Give well-structured descriptions and explanations
- Ask relevant questions to extend their understanding and build vocabulary and knowledge
- Articulate and justify answers, arguments and opinions
- Gain, maintain and monitor the interest of the listener(s)
- Maintain attention, participate actively in collaborative conversations, staying on topic and initiating and responding to comments
- Use spoken language to develop understanding through speculating, hypothesising, imagining and exploring ideas
- Speak audibly and fluently with an increasing command of Standard English
- Participate in discussions, presentations, performances and debates.
- Select and use appropriate registers for effective communication.
- Consider and evaluate different viewpoints, attending to and building on the contributions of others.
- Talk about their own experiences, recounting events
- Participate in discussion and debate
- Talk for writing
- Retell stories and poems
- Express opinions and justifying ideas
- Listen to stories read aloud
- Present ideas to different audiences
- Take part in school performances
- Respond to different kinds of texts
- Talk to visitors in school
- Listen to ideas and opinions of adults and peers
- Role-play and other drama activities across the curriculum.
- Use drama techniques, including work in role to explore ideas and texts
- Create, share and evaluate ideas and understanding through drama and role play

## **Impact**

Effective Speaking and Listening give basic skills we need to communicate with the world around us. Children are given a range of opportunities to develop these skills, in a safe and stimulating environment. The wide range of speaking and listening activities – woven throughout our curriculum – help to develop ideas, vocabulary and confidence. We regard the development of good speaking, listening and collaborative skills as fundamental to the achievement of children at Haydn. It is our

belief that by teaching these key skills, we are equipping our children for life and work within secondary school and beyond. In addition, by promoting the development of positive relationships and social skills, the children will be able to lead fulfilled lives as happy, articulate children confident to express themselves.