

The Early Years Foundation Stage Framework states that 'communication and language development involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.'

Speaking and Listening

adults

children

- Can express their feelings and thoughts non-verbally-through gestures, symbols, emotions
- Need to be encouraged to communicate by getting positive responses
- Know what they say is considered important-this enhances their self esteem
- Need to talk as a way of communicating their needs, wants desires, likes and dislikes
- Need to develop confidence to speak to adults and other children
- Will be encouraged to speak in their home language to adults and children if possible
- Will learn to speak English- at a level appropriate to their development
- Need to have experiences that they can talk about if they are to become readers and writers
- Will have access to a stimulating, rich environment which fosters the use of talk
- Will be encouraged to use talk during their play
- Will be supported in their play by adults who use talk and conversation as a tool for teaching and learning
- Will be supported to use English during Together time activities
- Will be encouraged to listen to stories at Together time and respond appropriately
- Can retell elements of a story at circle time. Can recite a rhyme or poem. Can join in with songs
- Children's vocabulary will be assessed regularly and targets for development set
- Will develop a good and growing in English vocabulary based on the school's language scheme
- Will work in a language group which reflects their growing abilities
- Will listen to stories, songs and tapes and use music to develop listening and speaking
- Will learn the conventions of conversations such as listening and turn taking
- Will be encouraged to ask questions to find out more
- Can use language to describe their thinking
- Will have opportunities to use social language in group situations such as snack time and meal times
- Will have opportunities to develop listening and speaking skills such as playing games

Community

- The school and under three's centre give information to parents explaining our systems for development in this area and showing how they can help at home
- We use a range of support staff and agencies to help children with difficulties in this

- Adults know the importance talk plays in a child's development.
- Encourage children to communicate in whatever way they find most effective
- Know the importance of children's communication in their home language
- Use words in other languages to show that we value every child's home language
- Adults know that children need to be able to communicate orally before they can begin to read and write
- Offer good role models of conversation and modes of speaking
- Make time to listen to children and answer questions
- Have conversations with children which extends understanding and use of language
- Use open ended questions to develop thinking
- Show children that language can be used in many ways-for humour, questioning, predicting
- Adults will monitor children's competencies and work to develop vocabulary and social English
- Staff can diagnose difficulties with speech and make referrals to appropriate support agencies
- Ensure that children with communication difficulties have extra support to help development
- Ensure that children are given opportunities to speak and listen across all curriculum areas and activities
- Plan structured teaching activities to develop speaking and listening skills
- Have developed an effective scheme of work to develop these skills at circle time

This policy helps us to achieve the Early Years Foundation Stage