**Speaking and Listening at Stoke Bishop CoE Primary School**

Speaking and listening is central to the Stoke Bishop CoE Primary School Curriculum and is developed from EYFS throughout our school, across the curriculum. We nurture children’s speaking and listening skills through a variety of approaches: exploratory play, story time, hot-seating, drama, role play, discussion, debating and presenting. We develop these skills so that our children are capable of expressing their own ideas clearly and confidently, in a safe and supportive environment, in all aspects and areas of their school life and into their future.

**Intent**

Our intention is for children to be able to express their opinions, articulate their feelings whilst being able to listen to and respond appropriately in a range of different situations. The children will be able to participate with different groups of children and present ideas with confidence, valuing the views of others. Our pupils will be expected to speak audibly and confidently before an audience (for example when leading class and whole-school worship; when performing in school plays).

**Implementation**

Our approaches to teaching and learning encourage pupils to voice their ideas in small group and class discussions, as we recognise that sharing and explaining concepts with peers enhances learning. All staff will model the use of higher-level vocabulary within their speech and language. Staff also model correct grammar in speech and encourage children to reflect this in their use of spoken and written language.

Expanding our children’s vocabulary is a key focus which begins in the Early Years and this further supported through subject specific vocabulary which is embedded across our curriculum, through teacher modelling, in context. We believe that contextual learning helps children to understand new words and supports them in including them in their work.

During Guided Reading sessions texts are chosen carefully to encourage pupils to explore unfamiliar vocabulary, expand their knowledge of words and their understanding of how to use language effectively.

Through our writing teaching sequence children develop their thinking and orally rehearse ideas for writing. Drama is used across the curriculum to explore and engage children with their learning. This gives them the chance to embed vocabulary and practice in shared activities.

Children also have the opportunity to take part a range of speaking and listening activities for a wider audience. For example:

* Each HUB holds termly child led parent / carer sharing assemblies
* Children in Reception perform a nativity play each Christmas;
* Years 1 and 2 also perform a Christmas production;
* Years 3 and 4 rehearse and perform a production at Easter;
* Year 6 perform in Summer.

**Impact**

Our pupils have the ability to speak about themselves and their learning. They are confident in speaking listening which allows them to communicate with others effectively. They learn to express their ideas verbally, to discuss and debate issues with others, listening and responding to alternative views. They learn that their choice of language and sentence structure must be varied to reflect the purpose and audience of their conversation. These skills are invaluable to the children in the modern world.