

Policy Statement -Autumn 2008 (Review Autumn 2010)

Netherfield Infant School and Nursery

Speaking and Listening

Aims

- To encourage clear understandable speech
- To encourage respect for the right of the individual to have and express an opinion
- To develop the ability to respond appropriately to the spoken word
- To encourage a wide range of vocabulary
- To develop confidence when speaking in a variety of situations
- To develop the ability to listen attentively in a variety of situations
- To promote the use of Standard English in formal situations
- To develop sustained concentration by listening for progressively longer periods
- To develop staff awareness and enable initial assessment of difficulties that may need expert help

Objectives

- To model good speaking and listening skills and to teach conventions for speaking and listening.
- To provide a variety of situations to encourage children to speak and listen eg 1:1, small groups, whole class, circle time, reading together, assembly, drama, imaginative role play, performances.
- To provide formal and informal situations that develop speaking and listening skills ie turn taking, discussion, appropriate vocabulary, questioning, awareness of audience
- To use a variety of games, media and specialist equipment to encourage careful speaking and listening
- To use professional judgment in responding to children's remarks and language - both appropriate and inappropriate
- To carry out ongoing informal and regular formal assessments that can be used to inform future planning
- To liaise with outside agencies and provide for special needs eg by supporting children with individual speech and language programmes
- To use appropriate ICT activiti

Scheme of work

Speaking

Informal speaking

We want children to be happy and confident when speaking to adults and other children in school. We provide many opportunities for children to discuss their experiences and ideas (eg one to one communication, group activities, role play, imaginative play, break times etc.) By listening to these informal conversations we are able to assess a child's language development and identify future learning needs.

Formal speaking

Children should be encouraged to:

- give any verbal response when directly spoken to
- give an appropriate verbal response
- follow formal turn taking
- contribute to a small group discussion
- be able to take a message to another staff member
- contribute during a whole class discussion
- take a message and convey a reply
- speak clearly and audibly in a small group, large group, in front of an audience
- make relevant and interesting comments during a discussion time
- give an opinion
- give a reasoned opinion
- recognise the need to listen as well as speak in a discussion
- be able to formulate and ask relevant questions

Listening

We provide a variety of opportunities that encourage children to listen carefully, give an appropriate response and demonstrate understanding, e.g assemblies, story times, discussion times - small and large groups, teaching times - small and large groups, story tape, collaborative learning activities, time with big books.

Planning and Assessment

Speaking and Listening activities are now an pivotal part of the Primary strategy Literacy units. Activities such as Role Play, Drama, Questioning Wheels and Hot seating will be covered in these unit plans prior to and before any writing activities are covered and will therefore be integral to weekly planning.

Assessment for Learning will underpin this planning and will be three fold - day to day assessments, periodic and transitional.

Resources

Stimulating fiction and non fiction books, poetry, artifacts, posters, postcards, photographs that promote discussion - classrooms, library, curriculum store

- A listening centre in each class.
- Story tapes - Big Book area
- Music tapes - storage unit in hall
- Games and activity sheets that promote speaking and listening - in classrooms and staff room
- Computers with speakers and microphones in classrooms
- Regular visits from theatre groups
- CD Players in every class
- Speaking & Listening Rules in each classroom
- ICT resources for Speaking and Listening.