

Oracy at Cedars Primary School



What is oracy?

Oracy is the ability to articulate ideas, develop understanding and engage with others through spoken language.

Our Vision

Oracy is a vital part of our school identity and a vital part of every lesson. We want all members of our community to have the skills to be confident and effective communicators.

We are a Voice 21 Oracy School. With the support and expertise from Voice 21 (a UK initiative dedicated to promoting the value of oracy in education), our aim is to provide a high quality oracy education that enables children to articulate their ideas, develop understanding and engage with others through spoken language. We believe oracy is fundamental to our pupils' success both in school and in their life beyond school and are therefore committed to building and embedding a culture of oracy throughout our curriculum, school and community.

Oracy Rationale

At Cedars Primary School, oracy is a vital part of our school identity and a crucial part of every lesson. We want all members of our community to have the skills to be confident and effective communicators. With the support and expertise from Voice 21 (a UK initiative dedicated to promoting the value of oracy in education), our aim is to provide a high quality oracy education that enables children to articulate their ideas, develop understanding and engage with others through spoken language. We believe oracy is fundamental to our pupils' success both in school and in their life beyond school and are therefore committed to building and embedding a culture of oracy throughout our curriculum, school and community.

Across all key stages, we plan talk for a range of purposes and aim to embed oracy into all areas of school life. When planning oracy, we use the oracy framework from Voice 21, as this outlines the physical, linguistic, cognitive, and social and emotional skills and attributes around speaking that our pupils need to be successful communicators. These skills are modelled, practised and encouraged in every area of our curriculum as evidence has shown that having high quality oracy skills can enhance every area of learning.

At Cedars, good use of standard English is consistently modelled and subject specific vocabulary is taught in all lessons so that pupils develop a wider range of spoken language and improve their understanding and comprehension. Through regular practice, children improve their levels of oracy so that they are able to express themselves clearly and communicate both confidently and effectively in front of any type of audience. At every opportunity, children articulate ideas and thoughts, influence others through talking, collaborate with peers and have the confidence to express their views.

At Cedars, purposeful talk is used to drive learning forward. There is a huge emphasis on learning from others and being able to listen effectively. Discussion guidelines and listening ladders are created by each class and are displayed, rehearsed and referenced to at the beginning and during all discussions. These reinforce the equal importance of both speaking and listening. Talk Tactics are used to encourage pupils to think strategically about their contributions to group or whole class talk. Our pupils engage in many different types of exploratory and presentational talk. By teaching pupils to become more effective speakers and listeners, we empower them to better understand themselves, each other and the world around them. It is also a route to social mobility, empowering all students, not just some, to find their voice to succeed in school and in life.

Reviewed By Mrs Farida Esat