



Principle for Oracy

" Finding our voices. Speaking with confidence. Listening with care."

Intent

At Flowery Field, we value every child's voice, equipping them with a range of strategies to empower them to speak confidently.

Why do we value Oracy?

- Oracy increases confidence, empowering students with the belief that their voice has value, developing the ability to articulate thoughts so others will listen.
- Oracy improves academic outcomes, developing learners who can think critically, reason together and have the vocabulary to express their knowledge and understanding through learning to talk for a wide range of purposes and audiences
- Oracy fosters wellbeing, supporting students to build successful relationships, talk through issues, express feelings, emotions and resolve conflicts.
- Oracy equips for life beyond school, helping them to progress, access employment and engage in civic life by ensuring there is a clear progression through the primary education

We recognise that oracy is not just a subject it is the foundation for learning, relationships and self-belief.

Implementation

We embed oracy across the curriculum, following the Voice 21 **Oracy Framework** to support structured, purposeful talk. Our approach includes:

Talk-rich classrooms: every lesson includes opportunities for structured speaking and listening—whether through discussion, debate, storytelling, or questioning.

Explicit oracy teaching: children are taught the skills of good communication—eye contact, voice projection, active listening and body language—through modelled examples and practice.

Talk protocols: we use Talk Tactics (sentence stems), discussion guidelines, give proof of listening and groupings to ensure purposeful dialogue.



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Oracy opportunities: pupils speak in assemblies, perform poetry, explain their reasoning in maths, narrate history, debate in geography, and collaborate in science. Link to presentational and exploratory talk... even walking prospective parents around school.

Inclusive Practice: we ensure that every child, including those with SEND or EAL, is given the support and confidence to participate in talk and feel heard.

Woven Throughout the Curriculum: Oracy is not taught in isolation—it is part of every subject and every learning experience. From science investigations to art critiques, talk is central to how children make sense of their learning.

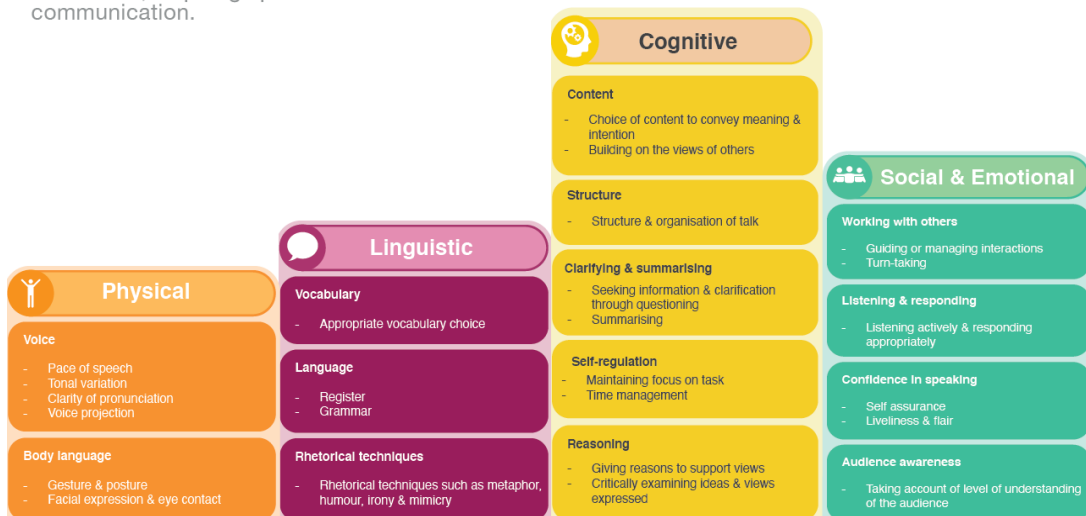
Assessing oracy and progression through the Oracy Framework.

The **Oracy Framework** divides speaking and listening skills into four categories: **cognitive, linguistic, physical** and **social & emotional**. It provides a lens for understanding what constitutes effective communication in different contexts and establishes a shared language across the school. Children and staff use the framework to identify strengths, set targets, give clear feedback and assess progress, ensuring all pupils develop as confident and skilled communicators.

The Oracy Framework

Use the Oracy Framework to understand the physical, linguistic, cognitive, and social and emotional skills that enable successful discussion, inspiring speech and effective communication.

Oracy
Cambridge





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Smart School Council:



We have fortnightly Smart School Councils meetings in Year 1-6 where we ensure that every child has a voice. Each session, two children from each class take on the roles of meeting leader and meeting notetaker to develop their confidence in leaderships skills. We use Smart School Councils as it is a fun and easy way to build everyone's debate, oracy and leadership skills. We use the talk tactics: instigate, challenge, summarise and build to enable effective discussions. During the session, the adult is clear in setting high expectations for oracy, being clear on the talk tactic focuses. Children receive in the moment, clear feedback on their oracy skills.

This provides real-world contexts to hone oracy skills in meaningful and empowering ways.

Impact

Our strong commitment to oracy ensures that all Flowery Field children develop the spoken language skills essential for learning, well-being and future success. Oracy underpins the curriculum and enables pupils to access learning, articulate thinking and deepen understanding across all subjects.

As a result of this focus, children:

- Use spoken language confidently and effectively to explain, justify, question and reflect on their learning
- Develop a broad and ambitious vocabulary, enabling them to communicate with clarity and precision
- Listen attentively and respond appropriately, building on the contributions of others
- Engage respectfully in discussion and debate, demonstrating empathy, curiosity and an appreciation of different perspectives
- Show increased confidence, resilience and independence in academic and social contexts



Flowery Field



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Our inclusive oracy approach ensures that all pupils, including those with SEND and disadvantaged learners, are supported to find their voice and participate fully. Through structured talk, high-quality interactions and explicit teaching of speaking and listening skills, children learn not only how to communicate but how to think deeply, collaborate effectively and contribute positively to their community.