

**Talk Boost KS3 Piolet Project**

This academic year Hope High School has been invited to take part in a piolet project to help the development of communication skill development programme aimed at pupils in Key Stage 3.

We will be delivering the Talk Boost programme to a cohort of year 7 &8 pupils who do not present with any language delays but may not have been exposed to opportunities to develop tier 2 language skills.

Research has identified that a young person’s language skills continue to develop until the age of 19, however we place expectations on young people to use high tier language from the start of Key Stage 3 that they may not necessarily have had exposure to. However, language can be abstract and de-contextualised in the educational setting. Teachers need to create more opportunities to check when pupils don’t understand spoken word. In the wider secondary environment this becomes more difficult as pupils are less likely to say when they don’t understand what is being said to them.

Employers actively seek to recruit those who can evidence high order language and communication skills. The talk boost project not only provides small group intervention strategies to help develop communication and language but also support pupils by teaching them how to develop clarification strategies.

As part of the project the school will be helping to develop teaching materials and activities to support our pupils and meet their varying needs. School will be using the Talk Boost progression tool to analyse the impact of the intervention.