



Speaking & Listening

“The way we communicate with others and with ourselves ultimately determines the quality of our lives.” (Tony Robbins)

Intent:

Our Christian values of love and respect underpin our aspirations for this highly important area of the curriculum. We aspire that all of our pupils will be able to express their opinions and articulate their feelings in a variety of contexts; and aim to inspire our pupils and staff to value the gift of listening and responding to one another with sensitivity. All pupils will be offered regular opportunities to speak in front of both their peers, and a wider audience during their time in the Federation.

Spiritual Development

We create an ethos of mutual respect, where everyone feels able to share their feelings and emotions. We support each other to speak and be heard, even in those difficult times, when we need courage, compassion and friendship.

Implementation:

- Pupils are encouraged to listen and speak in paired learning, in small group discussions and in whole class situations across the curriculum.
- During daily Guided Reading lessons, pupils learn to use their voices with expression and confidence and vary their tonal quality in a safe environment.
- Pupils are exposed to a wide repertoire of vocabulary and correct grammar through teacher-modelling. They have focused opportunities for extending vocabulary as part of topic based learning.
- All classes use the technique of *talk for writing* during English and other curriculum lessons.
- Drama is used across the curriculum to explore concept, engage pupils in their learning and develop their understanding, reasoning and empathy.
- All pupils take part in a school nativity at Christmas, and other musical and theatrical performances during the year.
- Each class delivers their own class assembly every half term to parents, pupils, staff and governors.
- Individuals and groups of pupils help to lead Collective Worship on a regular basis.
- Pupils engage with weekly philosophical discussion during Collective Worship in cross-age group activities.
- Our PSHE programme encourages and develops the skills of listening and speaking and is supported by a *Thrive* programme across the schools.
- The school and eco councils promote the opportunity for pupil voice in each school.



Impact:

By the time children leave the Saints Federation, they are thoughtful speakers and listeners who are able to express their own opinions and understand that, at times, others may feel differently to them. Pupils will have found the courage to speak in front of others, including a large, gathered audience. They will have felt valued for their unique contributions to the school and the wider community.