

Purpose:

Communication serves a broad range of purposes, from academic achievement and critical thinking to social and emotional development, preparing students for future success in both their personal and professional lives.

By expressing ideas, debating concepts, and defending arguments, students develop their ability to think critically and analytically. They learn to express themselves clearly, use appropriate vocabulary, and structure their thoughts coherently. Communication skills are fundamental for literacy and language proficiency.

Assessment:

Teachers will enable different assessment tools to take place across all key stages, this may include:

Observation: Observe students during discussions, group activities, or presentations. Pay attention to their ability to articulate ideas, engage in meaningful conversations, and demonstrate active listening.

Assess Written Communication: Evaluate written communication skills through assignments, essays, or journals

Role-Playing Exercises: Use role-playing scenarios to assess how well students can navigate social situations, resolve conflicts, and communicate effectively in various contexts.

Incorporate Technology: Utilize technology platforms for communication tasks, such as online discussions or collaborative projects.

Cross curriculum:

English/Language Arts: Reading and Writing: These skills are fundamental to communication. Students need to be able to comprehend written information and express their thoughts coherently in writing. **Speaking and Listening:** Communication skills are honed through activities such as discussions, presentations, and debates.

Mathematics: Verbal Explanation: Students need to articulate their thought processes when solving problems, helping them to demonstrate understanding and share strategies. **Writing in Mathematics:** Explaining mathematical concepts in writing supports the development of both mathematical and communication skills.

Science: Scientific Inquiry: Students should be able to communicate their hypotheses, observations, and conclusions clearly. This includes writing lab reports and engaging in class discussions. **Presentations:** Communicating findings through presentations helps students develop oral communication skills.

History: Analytical Writing: Students need to express their understanding of historical events and social issues through essays and reports. **Debates and Discussions:** Engaging in debates helps students articulate and defend their viewpoints on historical and societal issues.

Physical Education: Verbal Instructions: Communication is crucial for understanding and following instructions during physical activities. **Team Communication:** In team sports, effective communication is essential for coordination and strategy.

Key Stage or stage breakdown:

Key Stage 1 (Stages 1 and 2):

Basic Communication Skills: Introduction to basic verbal communication. Developing listening skills. Understanding non-verbal cues.

Building Relationships: Emphasizing the importance of kindness and respect in communication. Simple conflict resolution strategies.

Expressing Emotions: Identifying and expressing emotions verbally. Basic understanding of empathy.

Key Stage 2 (Stages 3-6):

Effective Communication: Developing more sophisticated verbal communication skills. Active listening and responding appropriately.

Digital Communication: Introduction to online communication etiquette. Recognizing the impact of digital communication on relationships.

Conflict Resolution: More advanced strategies for resolving conflicts. Understanding different perspectives.

Empathy and Understanding: Deepening the understanding of empathy and its role in communication. Recognizing and managing emotions in oneself and others.

Key Stage 3 (Stages 7-9):

Communication in Relationships: Understanding the dynamics of different relationships. Developing effective communication within friendships and families.

Online Communication: Exploring the impact of social media on communication. Discussing cyberbullying and online safety.

Health Communication: Communication about physical and mental health. Discussing the impact of communication on well-being.

Key Stage 4 (Stages 10-11):

Advanced Communication Skills: Developing persuasive communication skills. Preparing for future workplace communication. **Relationships and Consent:** Exploring consent in relationships. Understanding boundaries and communication in intimate relationships.

Mental Health Communication: Discussing mental health openly and reducing stigma. Developing skills to support friends and seek help when needed.