



THORNHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Speaking and Listening Intent Statement

At Thornhill Primary School, we understand that speaking and listening skills are fundamental to children’s progress in all areas of the curriculum, and the need for effective oral communication is vital to develop and enhance life skills. Therefore, we seek to develop children’s speaking and listening skills as an integral part of the school curriculum and prepare children to establish positive relationships inside and outside school with the ability to communicate thoughts, feelings and ideas confidently and successfully.

Healthy	Curious	Resilient	Ambitious	Independent
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•physical health•emotional well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•enthusiastic learners•ask questions•investigate•find patterns	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•ready to explore•willing to have a go•confident	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•ready for their next stage•high aspirations•knowing their full potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•articulate•resourceful•problem solvers

We provide a language-rich environment, where adults talk with children throughout the day, because we know the more children take part in conversations, the more they will understand once they can read, and the more vocabulary and ideas they will have to draw on when they can write. Listening to and talking about stories and non-fiction develops children’s vocabulary because they meet words that they would rarely hear or use in everyday speech. We encourage children to communicate orally with others, listen with concentration and respond to what they have heard. They are taught when to listen and what good listening looks like.

Through enjoying rhymes, poems and songs, teachers build children’s strong emotional connection to language. The predictability of rhymes in poems and songs helps children to memorise and reuse newly acquired words and phrases.

Children are given the opportunity to perform and present ideas to different audiences. They are encouraged to speak audibly and confidently.