Prerequisite Skills (Q Skills) in Communication across the Curriculum

Progress is also demonstrated by decreasing levels of support from adults: with direction, with decreasing direction, without direction.

Q1 **Experience**

(experience/encounter)

In sensory activities and activity-based learning/play-based learning, pupils:

Q2 Respond

(become aware, respond, interact intermittently)

In sensory activities and activity-based learning/play-based learning, pupils:

• respond intermittently to a range of texts/images for information, ideas and enjoyment;

• read a range of texts for information, ideas and enjoyment; • use a range of strategies to read with increasing independence;

Requirements for Reading

Pupils should be enabled to:

• find, select and use information from a range of sources;

• understand and explore ideas, events and features in texts;

• use evidence from texts to explain opinions.

- For example:
- experience a CD story supported by the text;
- experience a story shared through a picture on an interactive whiteboard (or current ICT

• experience a range of texts/images for information, ideas and enjoyment;

- experience a picture or series of pictures/large photographs presented by the teacher or displayed;
- experience a sensory story through objects of reference;

For example:

 experience a sensory story, using some of the senses, where the reader uses objects and sensory stimuli to engage the audience;

• experience information from a range of sources;

For example:

- experience spoken information;
- experience a literary-rich environment through photographs, pictures, objects and symbols, wall displays, visual timetable, labelled cupboards, etc:
- experience hanging coat on correct peg that is labelled with photograph of child;
- experience putting equipment away in areas labelled with a photograph, picture or symbol;
- experience language associated with texts/images;

For example:

- experience a range of texts and images;
- experience a range of objects, sensory stimuli and pictures;

For example:

• experience an object, listen to sounds, feel materials/textures, smell a variety of scents, focus on visual stimuli.

For example:

- intermittently listen to a CD story supported by the text;
- intermittently listen to a story through the medium of an interactive whiteboard (or current
- intermittently respond to a shared text by making sounds and/or doing actions with some
- intermittently look at a picture or series of pictures/large photographs/non-fiction text presented by the teacher or displayed on an interactive whiteboard (or current ICT display
- intermittently look at a book/magazine/catalogue shared with an adult;
- begin to respond to photos or pictures as representations of objects;

For example:

- listen to and intermittently interact (for example make noises/handle objects) with a story where the reader uses objects and sensory stimuli to engage the audience;
- respond to information from a range of sources;

For example:

- show awareness of own name/photograph on personal possessions;
- intermittently interact with hanging coat on correct peg that is labelled with photograph, colour, picture and/or name:
- intermittently follow a work system/task board/visual timetable, to find their own equipment/belongings;
- respond to simple, spoken instructions/directions accompanied by visual representation; such as 'sit', 'come here', 'hands down';
- show intermittent interest in photographs, DVD or TV using facial expression, body language or vocalisation;
- respond intermittently to the features of a range of texts/images;

For example:

- look intermittently at photographs of self/class/favourite activities;
- help to turn pages in a book;
- help use a switch to change pictures/images/turn pages on a computer or interactive whiteboard:
- respond to a range of objects, sensory stimuli and pictures intermittently indicating preferred and non-preferred items/experiences;

For example:

- choose preferred objects from a selection of objects;
- choose a preferred DVD from a selection;
- give intermittent eye contact to preferred pictures/images;
- show response to preferred and non-preferred items/activities.

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Q3 Engage

(engage with, imitate modelled behaviour, direct attention, focus, recognise)

In structured activities, in familiar and accessible contexts within activity-based learning/play-based learning, pupils:

Q4 Actively Participate

(interact, share, actively participate, collaborate, anticipate, recall)

In structured activities, in familiar and accessible contexts within activity-based learning/play-based learning, pupils:

Q5 Consolidate

(begin to develop an understanding)

In structured activities, in familiar situations and contexts, pupils:

 purposefully engage for longer periods of time with a range of texts/images for information, ideas and enjoyment;

For example:

- enjoy hearing a familiar story;
- willingly engage with an adult/peer in sharing a book;
- look at pictures being pointed out, such as 'look at the elephant' (may be accompanied by a sign);
- eye/finger point to pictures in response to an adult naming them;
- · identify pictures while a story is being read, by pointing, making signs or naming;

engage with photos or pictures as representations of objects;

For example:

- direct attention to the teacher putting up visual timetable;
- look at or handle pictures to make a choice;
- engage with the sequence of a simple picture story;
- engage with information from a range of sources;

For example:

- hang coat and schoolbag up on correct peg that is labelled both with photograph and name;
- consistently perform an action given through a visual and verbal instruction, such as 'sit', 'stand', 'tidy up';
- indicate recognition/interest in photographs, DVD, TV etc. using gestures such as pointing or clapping hands or approximations of words;

 actively participate in an activity with a range of texts/images for information, ideas and enjoyment;

For example:

- · choose a book;
- hold a book the right way up and turn the pages sequentially, looking at the pictures to make sense of the story or information;
- show understanding of a story or information read to them, such as sequencing pictures, answering questions;
- turn the pages of a book appropriately;
- participate in navigating an online interactive story;
- participate in simple picture matching activities, such as snap, picture matching boards;

anticipate familiar images/words and understand that they communicate meaning;

For example:

- know the difference between print and pictures;
- match pictures/photographs in various forms and contexts;
- understand that pictures carry meaning in forming a simple sentence such as using PECS;
- share a personal reading book with an adult and 'read' their name (may not be able to read name in other contexts);
- share a very familiar book 'reading' a few words from memory but not decoding text, such as saying 'fee fi fo fum';
- use and show understanding of daily/weekly pictorial timetables;
- begin to find and select information from a range of sources;

For example:

- notice print in the environment;
- willingly share a book with an adult;
- show preference for specific books;
- derive some meaning from text, symbols or pictures presented in a familiar way;
- recognise emotions on faces in photographs;

For example:

- pretend to read a book, he/she may point to pictures and texts;
- participate in reading behaviour such as read a story to an audience (toys or peers);

show understanding that meaning can be taken from pictures, images and texts;

- participate in simple word matching activities;
- demonstrate an understanding that meaning can be taken from pictures, images and texts while navigating an online story;

• begin to develop an understanding of a range of reading strategies;

For example:

- show some understanding of letter sounds;
- use picture clues to suggest what a book may be about;
- point to text when 'reading';
- realise that printed word relates to pictures on page;
- recognise letters in own first name;
- point to names/words beginning with the same letter as his/her own name;
- finish line in familiar repetitive story;
- find, select and begin to use information from a range of sources;

For example:

- find a book clearly displayed in a collection of familiar books as directed by the teacher;
- recognise/begin to use social sight vocabulary in a familiar environment, such as toilet and exit;
- use a work system/task board/visual timetable;
- find specific areas around the classroom;
- show some understanding of print in the environment;

• engage for longer periods of time with features of a range of texts/images;

For example:

- look at photographs/pictures and show an awareness that they are the right way up;
- turn pages in a meaningful manner;
- press sound buttons or lift flaps etc;
- handle books and become aware of features, such as pages, open and closed (flip pages and open/close a book that may not be the right way up):
- engage with the use of a daily schedule or timetable in picture/TOBI form;
- engage with a range of texts and images to make choices;

For example:

- · point at/exchange pictures/make signs to indicate choice of activity;
- choose a favourite from a selection of familiar texts.

For example:

- anticipate what happens next in familiar stories;
- point to and identify specific images/pictures on request;
- begin to show recognition of characters within a book;
- show excitement and/or anticipation when teacher introduces story;

• begin to understand ideas, events and features in texts and images;

- turn a book the correct way up;
- participate in simple decision making to indicate opinions with a range of texts and images;

For example:

- point correctly to pictures when asked about characters or pictures in a story;
- indicate preferred characters in a story verbally or using signs;
- choose a book/magazine.

For example:

images;

• look at a book and listen to the associated book language, such as front cover, first page, turn the page, the end:

understand and explore ideas, events and features in a variety of texts, print, pictures and

- look and listen to a current news article/story using ICT/texts while teacher highlights central theme and/or main events, such as magazines/LearningNI News Desk/ newspapers;
- begin to respond to questions about familiar and unfamiliar texts in order to express opinions;

For example:

- answer questions about a book that has been read;
- predict what the story is about by looking at the front cover;
- begin to express basic opinions in relation to texts, such as 'why did you like the book?', 'what was your favourite part?'