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.

Requirements for				
Talki	ng	and	List	tening

Pupils should be enabled to:

• listen to and take part in discussions, explanations, role plays and presentations;

- contribute comments, ask questions and respond to others' points of view;
- communicate information, ideas, opinions, feelings and imaginings, using an expanding vocabulary;
- structure talk so that ideas can be understood by others;

- speak clearly and adapt ways of speaking to audience and situation;
- use non-verbal methods to express ideas and engage with the listener.

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:

• experience interaction with an adult/peer;

or example:

- sit or stand in a group, for short periods of time;
- experience familiar people talking through daily routines;
- experience small group work introducing or concluding the day;

• show intermittent interest in an adult/peer or small group;

or example

- sit or stand in a group activity and show intermittent attention;
- begin to show an interest in an adult/peer/friend by eye contact, body movements, facial expressions;
- begin to vocalise;

experience a range of sensory stimulation;

For example:

- demonstrate a brief awareness of the presence of others;
- encounter and experience a range of stimuli;

For example

- experience a range of sensory stimuli, such as musical instrument, toy, book, food;
- demonstrate a brief awareness of the presence of an object or stimulus;

• respond intermittently to familiar activities;

For example:

- show loss of interest;
- visually track an interesting stimulus;
- use sound/gesture/facial expression/body movements to indicate need;
- intermittently communicate a range of responses;

For example

- interact with an adult/peer, such as a smile or vocalisation during an activity;
- show an interest in objects/pictures etc. by eye pointing or grasping (with or without vocalisation);
- show pleasure/displeasure using facial expression/vocalisation (random sound)/body movements or by refusing to make eye contact/closing eyes;
- demonstrate awareness of approval;

encounter and experience a variety of communication interactions;

For example:

- experience greetings, songs, news time, storytelling, assembly;
- experience interactions with a range of people;

intermittently communicate needs and understanding;

For example

- intermittently look at and respond to an adult who is communicating something that is happening at present, such as 'look at the teddy', 'look at the car';
- use some vocalisation in response to a greeting, during a story or rhyme or when a favourite activity is talked about:
- respond by making body movements during interactions with adults/peers/friends;

• encounter and experience a variety of communicators and situations;

For example

- encounter visitors to the classroom, quest speakers, assemblies, performances;
- encounter and experience a variety of communicators and situations;

For example:

- experience an adult/peer who is giving one-to-one attention to communicate;
- experience a variety of communicators during greetings, songs, news time, storytelling, assembly, outdoor play, educational visits.

- For example
- use some vocalisation, facial expression and/or body movement in recognition of an audience;

• intermittently use vocalisation and/or body movements to signify awareness of audience;

- respond to and/or interact with a peer;
- use an augmentative communication device;
- respond to the imitation of his/her vocalisations;
- intermittently use non-verbal methods to engage with the listener;

For example:

- respond non-verbally to a social greeting, such as smiling, moving facial features or making a noise;
- intermittently use a variety of augmentative communication devices;
- get attention by gestures/facial expressions and body movements.

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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:

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:

participate in familiar rhymes, songs, stories and requests;

- join in language games/songs/rhymes by contributing a few words and/or actions;
- follow clear simple instructions accompanied by gestures, such as 'get your coat', 'put your shoes on';
- participate in body awareness activities, such as rotate body parts, move in front of/behind, move to designated space;
- use augmentative communication devices to promote communication with adults and peer, such as switches:

• contribute to conversations and follow clear, simple instructions;

For example:

listen to and understand short explanations/discussions accompanied by pictures/
multimedia:

Q5

Consolidate

(begin to develop an understanding)

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

- participate in adult-led imaginary role play;
- listen to information from adult/peers;
- respond appropriately and follow simple instructions;

body language and/or approximations of words;

• begin to focus and join in a range of talking, rhyming and singing activities;

• follow one information-carrying word/instruction accompanied by a gesture, such as 'look', 'stop', 'wait';

anticipate known events, such as sounds, actions or words in familiar songs or stories using

imitate actions, such as clapping hands, stamping feet, wriggling fingers;

sit or stand in a group activity for a duration appropriate to level of development/

• direct attention at what adult is talking about;

recognise familiar events, sounds, actions or words;

engage with options and choices;

For example:

For example

- engage with objects of reference;
- begin to repeat/copy/imitate single words/signs/symbols;
- · communicate an awareness of basic emotions and opinions;

For example

- show pleasure by joining in with gestures/sounds or approximations of words in an activity, such as a song/story or rhyme that has been repeated many times and is very familiar;
- show displeasure by refusing to join in with an activity or shaking their head to signify 'no'/ pushing away/walking away;
- begin to engage in purposeful communication;

For example

- eye point/finger point to pictures in a class news book containing information on very familiar people and activities;
- use some simple gestures during repeated songs, stories or rhymes;
- use eye pointing/gesture/body movements to demonstrate understanding of basic vocabulary, such as naming familiar objects such as 'teddy', 'car';
- consistently use vocalisation and/or body movements to signify awareness of audience;

For example:

- imitate sounds/signs;
- use sound or gesture to indicate need;
- use sound or gesture to indicate/request preferred object;
- use a non-verbal method while engaging in conversation;

For example

- make brief eye contact in response to general conversation;
- take adult's hand and lead to desired item/object/activity;
- request an activity by eye/finger pointing at an object or person.

For example:

• use 'yes' and 'no' in word/sign/symbols appropriately;

actively participate in answering simple questions;

- use familiar objects to communicate;
- indicate verbally or by sign/symbol when questioned if help is needed;
- indicate to familiar person/object/food as they are named by vocalisation/eye point/finger point;
- communicate emotions and opinions using simple language/signs/symbols;

For example

- use PECS/augmentative communication devices to communicate personal news/relevant events;
- verbally/non-verbally communicate daily needs;
- show an awareness of basic emotions in others, such as happy/sad/angry; start to cry in response to another child crying;
- begin to recognise emotions in a range of hand puppet/expression cards, such as sad face, happy face;

participate in simple conversations;

For example

- use approximations of words during repeated stories, songs and rhymes;
- begin to copy the 'ups and downs' of speech (intonation) and the sounds of voices;
- use strings of vocalisation interspersed with recognisable words in imitation of adult speech;
- use eye pointing/gesture/body movement/signs/symbols to contribute to a conversation;
- communicate clearly to a familiar audience;

For example:

- communicate using pictures/symbols to a familiar audience;
- use an augmentative communication device to communicate;
- interact appropriately to social greetings, such as 'hi' or 'hello';
- seek attention through eye contact, gesture or action;
- use verbal language/vocalisation, signs or symbols to communicate immediate needs or interests;
- use a range of non-verbal methods to communicate and engage the listener;

For example:

- make physical contact with adult/peer to maintain interaction;
- initiate some eye contact to engage the listener or turn the face of the listener towards themselves:
- take turns using visual clarification such as a 'whose turn?' board.

For example:

answer simple questions accurately and with understanding;

ask and answer simple relevant questions accurately;

- begin to form simple questions, such as 'go home?', 'see mummy?';
- use communication to describe thoughts and feelings to meet pupils' needs;

For example:

- express simple opinions, such as saying 'good' meaning 'that was good' or 'I enjoyed that' or gesturing, that is thumbs up, smiling, clapping;
- begin to express a level of self-awareness, such as 'tired' or 'don't like';
- express pleasure or displeasure in anticipation of an activity;
- develop an understanding of the structure of a conversation;

For example:

- demonstrate active listening;
- take turns appropriately in adult-led conversations/activities;
- answer simply by nodding/saying 'yes' or 'no'/individual mannerisms/pictorial representations when an adult talks about a pupil's recent experience;
- comment using single words or two-word utterances/vocalisations while viewing a video/listening to a story/looking at photographs etc. such as 'bear gone', 'dirty car';
- use repetition and/or increased volume for emphasis;
- communicate clearly to an expanding audience;

For example:

- communicate using pictures at simple sentence level in unfamiliar contexts/ environments;
- display a willingness to use appropriate signage in order to communicate;
- use an augmentative device to communicate using short phrases (two/three words);
- vocalise to initiate a social interaction with peers/adults/visitors;
- use a range of non-verbal methods to express ideas;

For example

• use a range of signs/symbols/gestures to express ideas, such as like/dislike.