



What does Communication and Language look like in Early Years at the NCEA Trust?

At NCEA Trust children's Communication and Language skills are a high priority. Our aim is for all children to be confident communicators. We aim for them to be able to share their ideas and opinions with others, listen and use talk to solve problems and organise their thinking and so these are key skills that we focus on.

We share stories with the children on a daily basis and our curriculum has been developed around these stories developing and embedding vocabulary. Active engagement in storytelling, story making, role play as well as knowing lots of different rhymes and poems in an environment rich in language gives the children opportunities to explore new words and new worlds. We also explore non-fiction books to extend children's knowledge and understanding.

The staff support children by introducing new words, developing conversations and helping children to listen carefully. We also focus on specific skills such as following and understanding instructions, developing auditory skills and interacting with others. Adults show the children by modelling appropriate questions and sentences and describing what they are doing.

Children with Communication and Language difficulties are identified early and support is given with focussed activities, parents and outside agencies are involved.

Communication and Language in our Nursery provision:

In Nursery we build on the skills learned in the 2-year old provision by continuing to focus our planned learning opportunities around a storybook focus. Children listen to and recall stories as well as making up their own stories. This increases their vocabulary and gives them the opportunity to explore words.

We encourage the children to ask their own questions and respond to questions expressing their own ideas and opinions. Songs, rhymes and poems are enjoyed on a daily basis so that children are able to build up a repertoire and make connections to their own lives as well as making links to other stories.

We support children to develop their Communication and Language skills in their play enabling them to continue conversations and work together to create stories and solve problems.