

What is Oracy?

Oracy, put simply, is speaking and being able to express yourself well.

At St Saviour's School we believe Oracy is key to learning, progress and feeling part of our school community.

Talk underpins all learning at our school. We believe that each child is unique and has their own unique voice, and that all our pupils have the **right to be heard**.

We know that Oracy helps pupils develop and deepen their **vocabulary, knowledge** and **critical thinking** skills.

As part of a Government of Jersey initiative, we have partnered with **Voice 21** to be part of a national and island drive to promote Oracy in schools. Because of this, we access high quality training and development opportunities in Jersey and the UK. This involves visiting other schools as well as sharing our own practice.

'A high-quality Oracy education is vital to not only improve academic outcomes of pupils but also to foster their confidence and wellbeing. It is a powerful tool for learning; by teaching pupils to become more effective speakers and listeners we empower them to better understand themselves, each other and the world around them'. Voice 21

Pupils at St Saviour's **learn to talk**, in actual Oracy lessons, **and through talk**, across the curriculum.

We teach Oracy skills using the **Oracy Framework**, this incorporates 4 strands:

1. **Physical strand:** Use of voice and body language
2. **Linguistic strand:** Vocabulary, language choice and rhetorical techniques
3. **Cognitive strand:** Content, structure, clarifying, summarising and reasoning
4. **Social and emotional strand:** Working with others, listening and responding, confidence in speaking and audience awareness

The Oracy Framework supports all pupils to understand and develop the skills needed to be great communicators.



How does Oracy develop at our school?

Oracy teaching underpins **all** teaching and learning in the Early Years (Nursery and Reception). The skills needed for talking and listening in groups start to be developed from Nursery. Giving presentations, taking part in a debate and making speeches are taught as pupils move through the school years.

Talk is encouraged in all our lessons, in the lunch hall and outside in the playground. Pupils share and discuss ideas, thoughts and opinions. In lessons, pupils talk and discover new information in lots of different groupings.

We are noticing that pupils are improving their confidence in communicating well with each other including building on each other's ideas and respectfully challenging anything they disagree with.

Why is Oracy important?

Skills learnt as part of an Oracy education will last a lifetime for the children that attend our school. So much in our lives depends on being a good communicator.

The benefits of Oracy skills have been proven to improve a whole range of social, emotional, and interpersonal skills, including increasing self-confidence, self-awareness, resilience, and empathy.

How can you help to develop good Oracy skills outside of school?

You could try some of the following ideas:

- Chat: Speak and sing rhymes and songs with your child.
- Play: Let your little one's imagination run wild with activities and games.
- Read: Share books or stories, visit the library or borrow books from school.
- Listen: Hear and talk about sounds, songs and tune in to your child's chatter, join in with them.
- Watch: Looking at fun and colourful videos or apps together. Talk about what you can see and what you each enjoy about this,
- Get your child to phone a friend (or relative): they can talk and listen
- Go on a walk, cycle, visit – chat about what you are doing, where you are and what is interesting to you both.

Reception
'Show and Tell'



Through working together, as partners in building the future, we can support your child in finding their voice and enable them to confidently share it with others.

Useful websites/information

<https://voice21.org>
<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/>

Oracy Lead teacher – Miss Traynor
Head Teacher and Oracy Champion - Mrs Williams

Telephone: 01534 725549

Email: admin@stsaviour.sch.je

Oracy at St Saviour's School



UNCRC

Article 12 Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.

Article 13 Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.