

St Mary's Primary School, Oxted

Vision and Intent for Oracy

Our Vision for Oracy at St Mary's



At St Mary's, we live out our faith together—learning to love God, our neighbour and the world around us. Excellence in learning is fostered through our shared Christian values and a deeply felt sense of belonging, enabling all our children to reach their full potential.

We believe God is love and that all people are loved by God. Knowing we are loved enables us to love ourselves and others. Our vision is to help children know this love within a shared community where all contribute to the wellbeing of others. We believe this provides a strong foundation on which everyone can excel in learning and, with God's help, become the people they were created to be.

Within this loving and inclusive community, we believe every pupil deserves a voice—and that their voice matters. Through oracy, we empower every child to communicate with confidence, purpose and pride, knowing that what they say has value.

Confidently Me: Secure in Our Identity in Christ

God created each one of us as a unique individual. We are all made in His image, reflecting His glory, and are called to live lives of fullness and purpose.

Being secure in our identity means supporting children to be confident, independent learners who are not afraid to express themselves. Through oracy, we encourage every child to:

- Recognise that their voice is powerful and deserves to be heard
- Speak confidently, knowing their ideas are valued
- Express thoughts and feelings clearly using rich and developing vocabulary
- Take pride in who they are, regardless of differences

We have high expectations for all, encouraging children to fulfil their potential both as learners and as people. This confidence enables them to articulate ideas, contribute meaningfully, and grow into self-assured individuals.

Belonging Together: In Union with Christ, In Fellowship with One Another

We belong together because we belong to God. We are part of one family, called into relationship with Him and each other.

At St Mary's, our strong sense of belonging creates a safe and supportive environment where every child feels able to speak and be heard. Through oracy, pupils learn that:

- Every opinion matters and deserves respect
- It is safe to share ideas without fear of being wrong
- Listening is as important as speaking
- Respectful disagreement helps us grow

Belonging together is shown in the way we celebrate each other's achievements and support one another in times of need. Through discussion and shared dialogue, children deepen their understanding, build relationships and develop empathy.

Confidently Me – Belonging Together – Challenged to Contribute

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Challenged to Contribute: To Communities Near and Far



Secure in themselves and rooted in a supportive community, our children are challenged to serve others, following the example of Jesus.

Through oracy, we equip pupils to use their voices to make a difference. We want them to understand:

- Why expressing thoughts and opinions matters
- How communication shapes their future and influences others
- That their voice can inspire, challenge and bring about change

We encourage pupils to:

- Speak clearly, confidently and respectfully in a range of situations
- Adapt their voice for different audiences and purposes
- Contribute thoughtfully to discussions about the world around them
- Use language as a tool to serve, lead and uplift others

In doing so, oracy becomes an expression of God's love and our fellowship (koinonia), as we use our gifts to serve one another and the wider world.

What We Want Our Pupils to Feel

Above all, we want our pupils to feel:

- Confident, empowered and proud to use their voice
- Valued and recognised within our school community
- Safe, supported and encouraged to share ideas
- Secure in their identity and sense of belonging
- Able to speak without fear of judgement

Our Vision in One Statement

We strive to create a school culture where every child speaks with confidence, listens with respect, and knows their voice has power. Rooted in our Christian vision, we equip pupils with the language, skills and self-belief they need to express themselves, build meaningful relationships, and make a positive impact in their world.

Oracy Curriculum Intent

Our oracy journey is driven by the ambition for **every child to find and use their voice**, both within our school community and beyond, preparing them to **thrive in life after school**. We celebrate the **unique voice of each individual**, embracing diversity and fostering inclusion.

Through our curriculum, children will:

- **Speak clearly and confidently** to a variety of audiences.
- **Communicate effectively and articulately**, adapting language for different settings.
- Engage in **active listening**, respectful discussion, and constructive dialogue.

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- **Explore ideas, reason, and negotiate**, contributing meaningfully to group decisions.
- **Challenge opinions respectfully** and reach resolutions through thoughtful debate.
- Understand that **their voice is valid and valued**.

We aim to develop **skills for life**, ensuring that oracy is not only a **golden thread across all subjects** but also closely linked to our **school values and behaviour policy**. By nurturing confident, articulate learners who can express themselves with clarity and respect, we prepare children to succeed academically, socially, and personally.

Our ultimate goal is to create a culture where **every child feels heard**, can **express, reason, and negotiate ideas confidently**, and leaves school equipped with the communication skills needed to flourish in the wider world.