

Monkshouse Primary School



Speaking and Listening



A short guide for parents

The advice in this leaflet is based on the latest research about what helps children to speak and listen well.

Speaking and Listening

It is important to help your child with speaking and listening because:



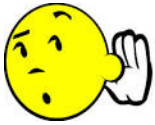
- The ability to speak and listen well provides a good foundation for future learning
- Good speaking and listening skills help children to make better progress in reading and writing
- Good communication skills enable children to make friends more easily
- Children will develop positive ways of expressing their feelings and will not become frustrated as easily

At school children learn to:

- Think about what they say
- Choose the right words
- Speak confidently
- Listen to the teacher
- Listen to their classmates and take turns
- Join in group discussions
- Express their opinions
- Make presentations to an audience
- Take part in debates



How you can help:



- Set a good example and listen to your child and others
- Allow your child time to talk – don't interrupt or finish their sentences
- Pay attention to what your child is saying
- Show you are listening by asking questions
- Listen to them read regularly
- Speak clearly and talk in full sentences
- If English is not your first language, speak your own language well
- Use clear and simple directions or instructions
- Praise children for listening to you when they do as you ask
- Discuss their day
- Encourage your child to share their views and interests with you
- Ask about homework and get involved in it
- Do not always rely on television/computers/games consoles, read a book or have a chat together
- Play games together
- Sing nursery rhymes and songs
- Use puppets and act out stories
- Make up stories
- Talk about items in the news



Ready to Learn Every Day!