

Shirley Warren – Progression of Skills for Speaking and Listening

Skills	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	To maintain	To listen to	To listen	To listen	To listen carefully	To listen carefully,	To make
	attention,	others	carefully and	carefully	in a range of	making timely	improvements
	concentrate and	in a range of	respond with	in a range of	different contexts	contributions and	based on
	sit quietly during	situations and	increasing	different	and usually	asking questions	constructive
	appropriate activity.	usually respond	appropriateness	contexts	respond	that are responsive	feedback on their
Listening	To have two	Appropriately.	to what has	and usually	appropriately to	to others' ideas	listening skills.
Skills	channelled		been said,	respond	both adults and	and views, e.g.	
	attention – can		e.g.make a	appropriately	their peers.	participate in a	
	listen and do for		helpful	to		collaborative	
	short span.		contribution	both adults and		project where they	
	To understand		when speaking	their peers.		listen to the ideas	
	humour, e.g.		in a small			of others and	
	nonsense rhymes,		reading group.			adapt these to	
	jokes.					meet the needs of	
	To follow a story					the group.	
	without pictures or						
	props.						
	To listen						
	attentively in a						
	range of situations.						
	To give their						
	attention to what						
	others say and						
	respond						
	appropriately,						
	while engaged in						
	another activity.						

Following	To respond to	To understand	To fully	To follow	To follow complex	directions/multi-step i	nstructions without
instructions	simple	Instructions	understand	instructions in a	the need for repeti	tion.	
	instructions, e.g.	with	instructions with	range of			
	to get or put away	more than one	more than one	unfamiliar			
	an object.	point in many	point in many	situations.			
		situations.	situations and				
	To respond to		independently	To recognise			
	Instructions		seek	when			
	involving a two part		clarification	it is needed and			
	sequence.		when a message	ask for specific			
			is not clear.	additional			
	To follow			information to			
	instructions			clarify			
	involving several			instructions.			
	ideas or actions.						
Asking and	To ask appropriate	To begin to ask	To show that	To ask	To generate	To ask questions	To regularly ask
Answering	questions of others.	questions that	they	questions	relevant	which deepen	relevant questions
Questions	To question why	are	are following a	that relate to	questions	conversations	to extend their
	things happen and	linked to the	conversation by	what has been	to ask a specific	and/or further	understanding
	give explanations.	topic	asking relevant	heard or what	speaker/audience	their knowledge.	and
	To comment and	being	and timely	was	in response to		knowledge.
	ask questions	discussed.	questions.	presented to	what has been		
	about aspects of			them.	said.	To understand how	
	their	To answer	To answer		To regularly offer	to answer	To articulate and
	familiar world,	questions on a	questions using	To begin to	answers that are	questions that	justify answers
	such as the place	wider range of	clear sentences.	offer	supported with	require more	with confidence in
	where they live or	topics		support for	justifiable	detailed answers	a range of
	the natural world.	(sometimes	To begin to give	their	reasoning. To	and justification.	situations
	To answer 'how'	may only be	reasoning	answers to	offer an		
	and 'why'	one word	behind	questions with	alternative		
	questions about their experiences	answers).	their answers	justifiable	explanation when		
	and in response to		when prompted	reasoning.	other is not		
	stories or events.		to do so.		understood.		

Drama,	To confidently	To speak clearly	To speak	To rehearse	To use intonation	To narrate stories	To participate
performance	speak to others	in a way that is	confidently	reading	when reading	with intonation	confidently in a
and	about own needs,	easy to	within	sentences and	aloud to	and expression to	range of different
confidence	wants, interests	understand	a group of peers	stories aloud,	emphasise	add detail and	performances,
	and opinions.		so that their	taking note of	punctuation.	excitement for the	role play exercises
	To express		message is	feedback from		listener.	and
	themselves		clear.	teachers and			improvisations
	effectively,	To speak in		peers.			(including acting
	showing	front of larger			To practise and	To use feedback	in role).
	awareness of	audiences, e.g.		To speak	rehearse	from peers and	
	listeners' needs.	ina class	To practise and	regularly in	sentences and	teachers (and from	To gain, maintain
	To speak	assembly,	rehearse	front of large	stories, gaining	observing other	and monitor the
	confidently in a	during a show	reading	and small	feedback on their	speakers) to make	interest of the
	familiar group, will	'n'tell session.	sentences and	audiences.	performance	improvements to	listener(s).
	talk about their		stories aloud.		from teachers	performance.	
	ideas				and peers.		
						To combine	To select and use
		To know when	To take on a	To participate	To take on a	vocabulary choices,	appropriate
		it is their turn	different role in	in role play	specific role in	gestures and body	registers for
		to speak in a	a drama or role	tasks, showing	role-play/drama	movement to take	effective
		small group	play and discuss	an	activities and	on and maintain	communication.
		presentation or	the character's	understanding	participate in	the role of a	
		play	feelings.	of character by	focused	character	
		performance.	, o	choosing	discussion while		
			To recognise	appropriate	remaining in		
			that sometimes	words and	character		
		To take part in	speakers talk	phrases to	To discuss the		
		a simple role	differently and	indicate a	language choices		
		play of a known	discuss reasons	person's	of other speakers		
		story.	why this might	emotions.	and how this may		
			happen.		vary in different		
					situations.		

Vocabulary	To begin to use	To use	To start to use	To use	To regularly use	To regularly use	To use relevant
building and	more complex	appropriate	subject- specific	vocabulary that	interesting	interesting	strategies to build
standard	sentences to link	vocabulary to	vocabulary to	is appropriate	adjectives,	adjectives,	their vocabulary.
English	thoughts (e.g. using	describe their	explain,	to the topic	adverbial phrases	adverbial phrases	
	and, because).	immediate	describe and	and/or the	and extended	and extended noun	
		world and	add detail.	audience.	noun phrases in	phrases in speech.	To use
	To use a range of	feelings.			speech.		adventurous and
	tenses (e.g. play,					To know and use	ambitious
	playing, will play,	To think of		To recognise		language that is	vocabulary in
	played).	alternatives for	To suggest	powerful	To know and use	acceptable in	speech, which is
		simple	words or	vocabulary in	language that is	formal and	always
	To use vocabulary	vocabulary	phrases	stories/ texts	acceptable in	informal situations	appropriate to the
	focused on objects	choices.	appropriate to	that they read	formal and	with increasing	topic, audience
	and people that are		the topic being	or listen to and	informal	confidence.	and purpose
	of particular		discussed.	begin to try to	situations with		
	importance to			use these	increasing		
	them.			words and	confidence.	To recognise	To use a broad,
				phrases in their		powerful	deep and rich
	To build up			own talk.		vocabulary in	vocabulary to
	vocabulary that					stories/ texts that	discuss abstract concepts and a wide
	reflects the breadth				To recognise	they read or listen	range of topics.
	of their experiences.		To start to vary	To discuss	powerful	to, building these	runge or topics.
			language	topics that are	vocabulary in	words and phrases	To speak audibly,
	To use past, present		according to the	unfamiliar to	stories/ texts that	into their own talk	fluently and with a
	and future forms		situation	their own direct	they read or	in an appropriate	full command of
	accurately when		between formal	experience.	listen to, building	way.	Standard English in
	talking about events		and informal.		these words and		all situations.
	that have happened				phrases into their		
	or are to happen		To usually speak		own talk in an		To confidently
			in grammatically		appropriate way		explain the meaning of words and offer
			correct				alternative
			sentences				synonyms.

Speaking for	To use language to	To organise	To talk about	To organise	To give	To plan and	To communicate
a range of	imagine and	their thoughts	themselves	what they want	descriptions,	present	confidently across
purposes	recreate roles and	into sentences	clearly and	to say so that it	recounts and	information clearly	a range of
purposes	experiences in play	before	confidently.	has a clear	narrative	with ambitious	contexts and to a
	situations.	expressing	confidently.	purpose.	retellings with	added detail and	range of
	Situations.	them.		purpose.	specific details to	description for the	audiences.
	To link statements	them.			actively engage	listener.	addiences.
	and stick to a main				listeners.	listerier.	
	theme or intention.	To be able to			listeriers.		
	theme of intention.	describe their	To verbally	To begin to give	To debate issues	To participate in	To articulate and
	To use talk to	immediate	recount	descriptions,	and make their	debates/arguments	justify arguments
	organise, sequence	world and	experiences	recounts and	opinions on	and use relevant	and opinions with
	and clarify thinking,	environment.	with some	narrative	topics clear.	details to support	confidence.
	ideas, feelings and	environment.	added	retellings with	topics clear.	their opinions and	connuence.
	events.		interesting	added details to	To adapt their	adding humour	To give well-
	events.	To retell simple	details.		ideas in response	where appropriate	structured
	To introduce a	stories and	uetalis.	engage listeners.	to new	where appropriate	descriptions,
	storyline or	recounts aloud.	To offer ideas	listeriers.	information.		
	narrative into their	recounts aloud.	based on what		imormation.		explanations, presentations and
			has been heard.				narratives for
	play.		nas been neard.				different
	To explain own						
	knowledge and						purposes,
	understanding.						including for
	To dovolon their						expressing
	To develop their own narratives and						feelings.
	explanations by						
	connecting ideas or						
	events.						

Participating	To initiate	To recognise	To give enough	To engage in	To engage in	To develop, agree	To maintain
in	conversations,	when it is their	detail to hold	discussions,	discussions,	to and evaluate	attention and
discussions	attend to and take	turn to speak in	the interest of	making relevant	making relevant	rules for effective	participate
	account of what	a discussion.	other	points or asking	points and ask for	discussion; follow	actively in
	others say. To listen		participant(s) in	relevant	specific	their own rules in	collaborative
	and respond to		a discussion.	questions to	additional	small groups and	conversations,
	ideas expressed by			show they have	information or	whole- class	staying on topic
	others in			followed a	viewpoints from	conversations.	and initiating and
	conversation or			conversation.	other		responding to
	discussion.				participants.		comments with
		To recognise	To engage in				confidence.
		that different	meaningful	To take account	To begin to	To engage in longer	
		people will	discussions that	of the	challenge	and sustained	To consider and
		have different	relate to	viewpoints of	opinions with	discussions about a	evaluate different
		responses and	different topic	others when	respect.	range of topics.	viewpoints,
		that that these	areas.	participating in			adding their own
		are as valuable		discussions.			interpretations
		as their own			To engage in	To ask questions,	and building on
		opinions and	To remain		meaningful	offer suggestions,	the contributions
		ideas.	focused on a		discussions in all	challenge ideas and	of others.
			discussion when		areas of the	give opinions in	
			not directly		curriculum.	order to take an	To offer an
			involved and be			active part in	alternative
			able to recall			discussions.	explanation when
			the main points				other participants
			when				do not
			questioned.				understand.