

PRIME AREA 1

Policy Statement: Communication & Language Development

Communication and language development involves giving children opportunities to:

- experience a rich language environment;
- develop their confidence and skill in expressing themselves
- speak and listen in a range of situations.

Early Learning Goals should normally be achieved when a child completes their first year in a Reception class, around the time of their fifth birthday. By the end of the Reception year children should be able to:

Aspect 1: Listening & Attention

- listen attentively in a range of situations
- listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions and actions
- give their attention to what others say and respond appropriately, while engaged in another activity

Aspect 2: Understanding

- follow instructions involving several ideas or actions
- answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to stories and events

Aspect 3: Speaking

- express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs
- use past and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future
- develop their own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas and events

Development Matters gives detailed guidelines on the expected developmental progression which supports children in working towards the

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Early Learning Goals. In our Montessori settings we provide the following activities to support them:

Aspect 1: Listening & Attention

At Horsham Montessori each child:

- has daily access to books, and enjoys listening to and participating in nursery rhymes, songs and stories and musical instruments
- is encouraged to join in and contribute when ready
- participates in the silence game which encourages focused listening
- participates in two way conversations and is given time to respond appropriately
- is encouraged to focus on presentations of new activities
- is listened to and learns how to listen to others

Aspect 2: Understanding

At Horsham Montessori each child:

- is given opportunities to demonstrate their understanding by following short conversations and non-verbal interactions
- listens to instructions from adults and peers which gradually become a routine as the child matures and settles into the rhythm of daily life
- responds to questions from adults and friends
- learns to follow complex instructions and respond to them appropriately as the child becomes more experienced and settled in daily routines
- is introduced to different languages through games and songs

Aspect 3: Speaking

At Horsham Montessori each child:

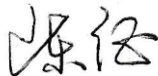
- has opportunities to listen attentively and demonstrate understanding of spoken and non-verbal language and routines responding verbally as language unfolds and develops
- is supported in the development of spoken language by:
 - ✓ modelling of spoken language
 - ✓ appropriate use of language

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- ✓ extension of vocabulary in all areas of learning - using visual prompts, conversations, books and stories as well as the three period lessons
- ✓ acknowledging the importance of the child's home language whilst supporting emerging use of the language spoken in the nursery
- ✓ encouraging conversations
- ✓ encouraging telling of their own stories at every opportunity, particularly during play, creative activities and when exploring activities in knowledge of the world
- ✓ encouraging questions

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Signature:



Version Control Record:

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Version Number	Changes Made	Date	Person Responsible
LDP1_C&L	Created	23/11/2013	Thea Bredie
LDP2_C&L	Reviewed & updated	18/01/2015	Thea Bredie
L&D_C&L3	Reviewed & updated	04/01/2016	Thea Bredie
L&D_C&L4	Reviewed & updated	04/04/2017	Jacky Brown