

The Oracy Project – The journey begins as we integrate oracy skills into every part of School life.

Mrs Helen Holt, Deputy Headteacher: 'Having introduced the Oracy Project, it has been exciting to see staff consider the research, embrace new ideas and confidently experiment with different strategies in the classroom. The benefits for our pupils have been evident in so many ways.'

Marissa, pupil: 'Oracy is so important in everyone's lives. It enhances social and emotional well-being, boosts self-confidence and resilience. It gives you the confidence to speak up for yourself: this can lead to a greater sense of happiness and well-being. It also prevents the feelings of isolation and loneliness which are far more evident today.'



Mrs Jenny Labbé, Year 3 Teacher: 'The smart decisions wheel was used to open up discussions about internet safety. Children's understanding and their ability to communicate their concerns is paramount to their safety; the work to develop oracy skills and encourage clear and confident expression is so valuable.'

The first of our Oracy Assemblies; pupils were vertically grouped to encourage debate. In discussion we use the Voice 21 Talk Roles; Instigator, Builder, Challenger, Clarifier, Prober and Summariser to encourage every pupil to take part.



Mrs Soper, parent: 'For me and my family, knowledge constructed through interaction is invaluable, where practical skills are not a sub-domain of written language, but greatly enhance it. Building content and vocabulary through discussion and oral presentations has not only improved our children's written English, but also their ability to express themselves and their ideas. It is in this belief which we place such high value and where Hesketh House excel.'

'Communication skills are high priority, giving the girls the confidence to speak up and believe in themselves. The importance of this in enhancing their sense of happiness and well-being, gives them a chance to have their voice heard and become confident young women.'

'Successful communication is a key driver of a person's effectiveness and the girls are encouraged to use discussion, instruction and dialogue across subjects to strengthen their learning. For this we cannot praise Hesketh House enough.'



Mrs Julia Marsden, PSHEE Co-ordinator: 'In PSHEE, assemblies and RE we set protocols for talking and listening. We incorporated key vocabulary and sentence openers into activities. In this way we promoted high quality talk which underpins all our pupils' development as communicators.'

During Lockdown assemblies, The Oracy Project became even more vital for self-expression, allowing pupils time to reflect, question and present their thoughts. Take a moment to listen. <https://twitter.com/boltonjnrgirls/status/1257010578218004491?s=21>