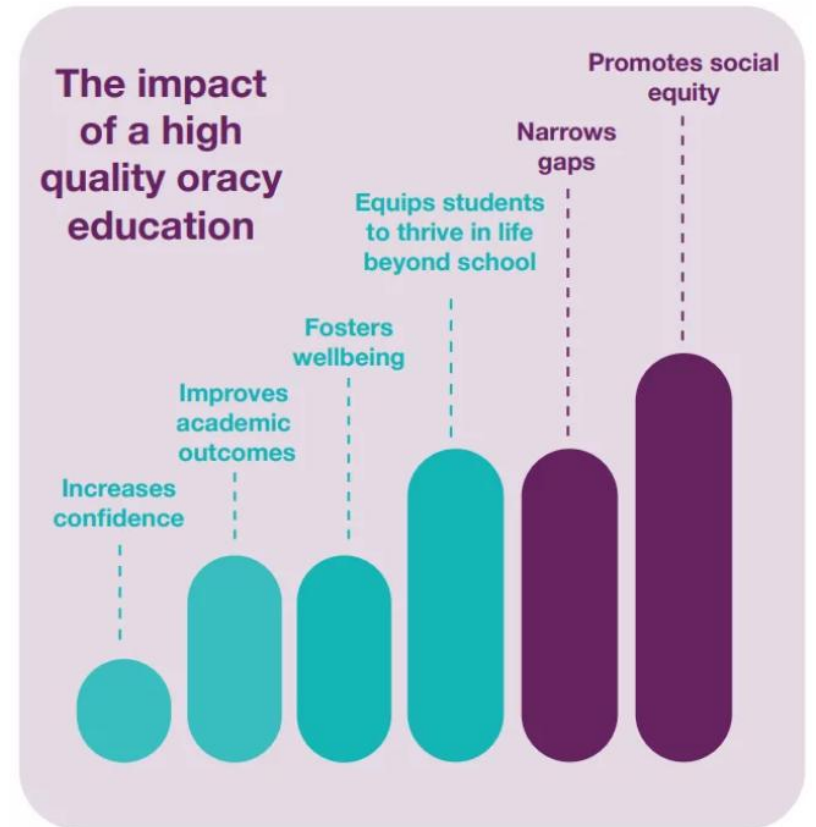


“[Talk is] the most powerful tool of communication in the classroom and it’s fundamentally central to the acts of teaching and learning”

Professor Frank Hardman¹

Oracy at Claycots

Claycots Primary School



What is Oracy?

Oracy is our ability to share ideas, develop understanding and engage with others through speaking and listening. In school, oracy is a powerful tool for learning; by teaching students to become more effective speakers and listeners we empower them to better understand themselves, each other and the world around them. It is also a route to social mobility, empowering all students, not just some, to find their voice to succeed in school and life.

Oracy for our children mean they can achieve academically but also socially and emotionally. They have the vocabulary to form friendships and navigate problems. They can express their feelings and share their thoughts.

Positive life chances increase with effective Oracy skills.

Oracy can also mean non-verbal communication for children with communication needs, such as the use of visuals or hand signals.



Voice 21

Voice 21 is the UK's oracy education charity. They work with schools to transform the learning and life chances of young people through talk. They campaign for oracy to have a higher status in the education system.

Claycots are proud to be working with Voice 21 to improve Oracy for all its pupils.



Oracy Vision

School Vision

At Claycots, our vision is to create a nurturing, talk-rich environment where everybody develops the confidence to express their thoughts, feelings and ideas clearly and respectfully to each other. Oracy is a core skill, that we embed into all areas of our daily practice from EYFS to Year 6. Through the power of oracy we will ensure that everybody is equipped with effective communication and listening skills. This will allow our children to find their own voice to prepare them for lifelong success emotionally, socially and academically.

Child-friendly vision

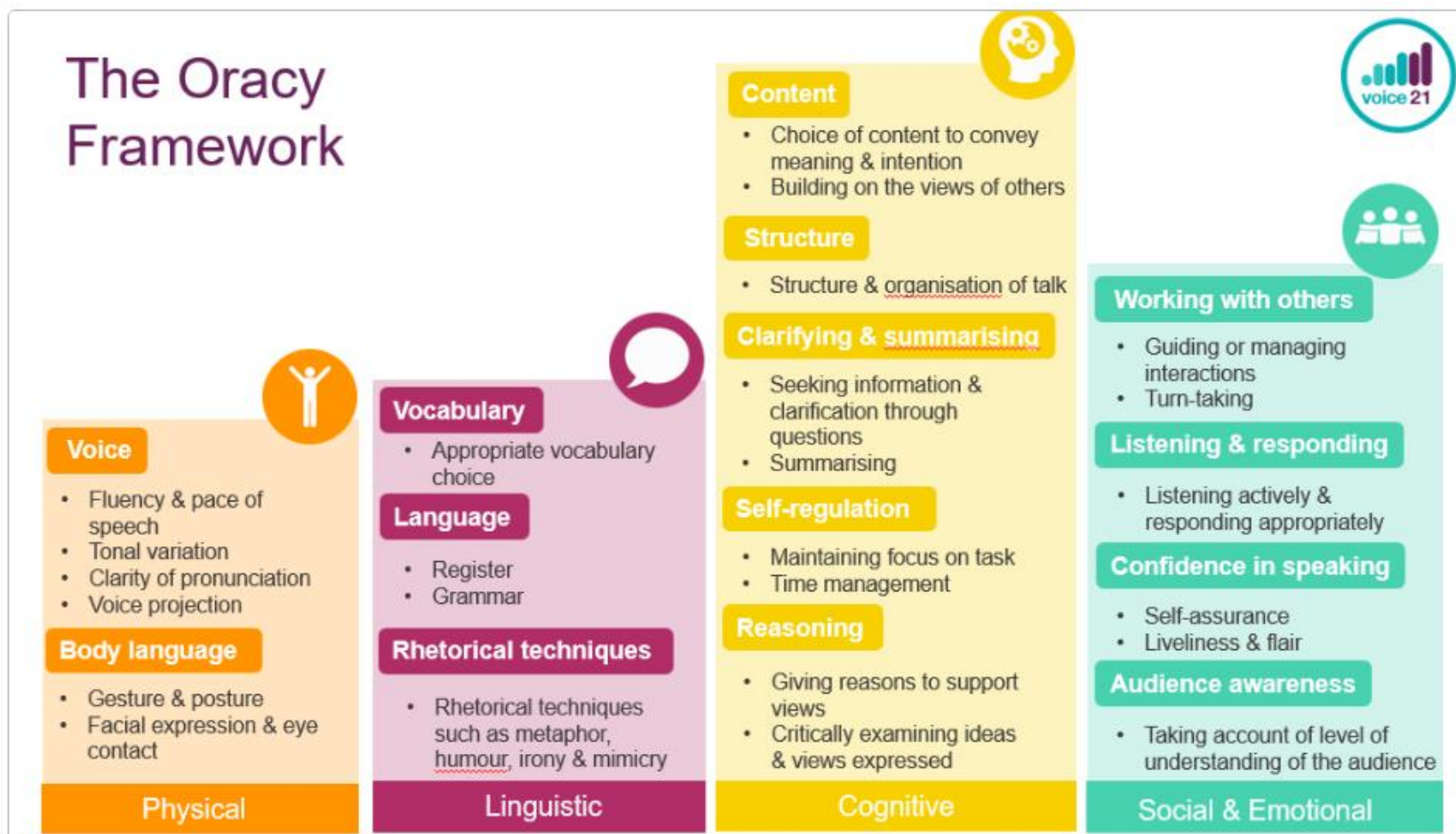
At Claycots, we want to feel safe, happy and confident when sharing our ideas and feelings. Talking and listening are very important, and we practise them every day. When you learn to communicate clearly, listen carefully and respect everyone's ideas, you will find your own voice and be heard. These skills will help you do well at school, make friends and be ready for the future.

Through a high quality oracy education students learn through talk and to talk. This is when they develop and deepen their subject knowledge and understanding through talk in the classroom, which has been planned, designed, modelled, scaffolded and structured to enable them to learn the skills needed to talk effectively.



Oracy Framework

The Oracy Framework, devised by Voice 21 and Oracy Cambridge, provides a structure through which teachers and children can understand what is good speaking and listening in different contexts. It breaks down the skills within oracy into four distinct but interlinked strands: physical, linguistic, cognitive and social & emotional.



Classroom Strategies

We use a range of strategies in the classroom to improve Oracy in lessons. These include:-

- Discussion guidelines and listening ladders
- Talk tactics to guide discussions and debates
- Standing up to answer questions and share ideas
- Talk for Tuesdays- an opportunity for children to discuss a question with their class each week
- Talk Detectives
- Talk tokens
- Vocabulary explicitly taught
- Partner work

