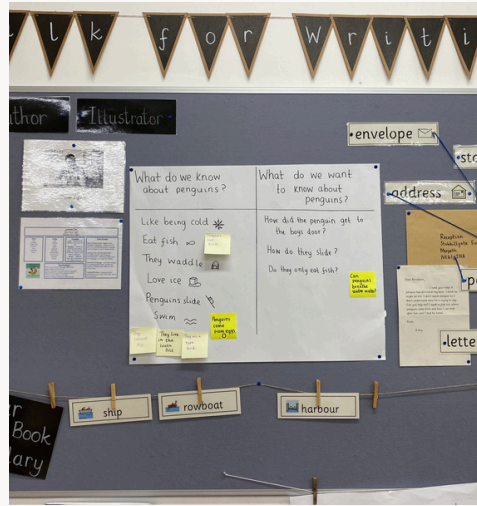


EARLY YEARS INCLUSION CASE STUDY – PRIORITISING DEVELOPING LANGUAGE



STOBHILLGATE FIRST SCHOOL

IDENTIFICATION OF NEED

- Increasing numbers of children starting in nursery and reception with lower language skills and specific gaps in vocabulary.

ACTIONS TAKEN

- Developed curriculum plans to be language focused and quality text focused.
- Developed language plans for each core text which identify specific vocabulary to be taught broken down into different word types (nouns, verbs, concepts) to ensure full vocabulary coverage. Language plans also identify key questions and skill strands enabling adults to focus their interactions.
- Identification of 'Target Memories' which identify key learning we want children to know, learn, and remember at the end of each 'unit' - built as 'mantras' which children are exposed to again and again.
- Use of drawing through story maps to embed narrative skills linked to core texts.
- Use of symbols and Widgits to further support children to know, understand and remember key elements of instructions and texts.

IMPACT

- High expectations from all adults of what children will learn in terms of language and specifically vocabulary.
- Clarity for subject leaders on how the progression of vocabulary is mapped out in early years and feeds into later learning in KS1 and beyond.
- Higher attainment across nursery and reception for all children in relation to communication and language with most rapid progress seen for the most disadvantaged children.

REVIEW/EVALUATION

- Focusing on teaching core skills, and prioritising doing fewer things well - language being the basis and strategy for teaching other aspects of learning and development
- Importance of lots of repetition and reinforcement for children especially those most disadvantaged.
- Continue to embed additional inclusive practice strategies through further development of use of Widgits and review of Target Memories to ensure they are pitched accurately and support the most disadvantaged children to know and remember more.