



Toddington St George Church of England School 'Ready to Learn Everyday'

Introduction

At Toddington St George Church of England School we believe that parents are a child's first and enduring teachers. They play a crucial role in helping their children learn. Where parents are involved with their children's education and learning both at home and in partnership with the school, their children do better and achieve more. These benefits can be long-lasting and extend to better health, relationships and improved employment prospects.

We made this book entitled 'Ready to Learn Everyday' following a consultation process with parents. Previous parents have found it very useful, we hope you do too. We welcome any feedback and further ideas so we can keep this leaflet up to date. If you have any comments please speak to your child's teacher.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in the creation of this leaflet.



Benefits of Parental Partnership

The benefits for the children are:

- It is easier for children to learn when they get encouragement from home.
- They will do better and achieve more when their parents are involved.
- Children get access to more activities in and out of school when there are more adults to help.
- Their concerns can be sorted out more quickly when their parents have a positive relationship with school staff.
- They are happy when their parents are enjoying events in the school.

The benefits for parents are:

- Their children do better when they are involved.
- They are better able to help and encourage their children.
- They have more information about their children's education.
- Parents can build their own confidence and skills.
- Where there is a positive relationship between parents and their child's school there are benefits all round.
- Parents get reassurance that their children are receiving a good education.



You child: Speaking and Listening

It is important to help your child with speaking and listening because:

- ✓ Your child's ability to speak and listen well will be a good foundation for their future learning
- ✓ If your child is a good speaker and listener they will do better at reading and writing
- ✓ If they communicate well with others, they will make friends more easily



- ✓ Good speakers and listeners are more independent and better able to express their feelings

At school younger children will learn to:

- ✓ Think about what they want to say and choose the right words
- ✓ Speak more fluently and confidently
- ✓ Listen to and follow instructions
- ✓ Listen to their classmates and take turns in speaking
- ✓



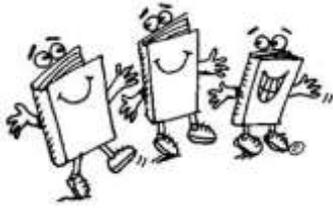
As they get older they will:

- ✓ Think things through with a talk partner
- ✓ Join in group discussions, making useful contributions
- ✓ Present to an audience, speaking clearly
- ✓ Take part in decision making and debate
- ✓ Learn how language varies in different situations

Your child: What you can do to help

Put listening to your child first:

- ✓ Show your child how to be a good listener by listening to them and others
- ✓ Be patient, don't interrupt them or finish their sentences for them
- ✓ Give your child your attention- don't check your mobile phone or other devices at the same time they are talking to you
- ✓ Show you are listening; ask questions and ask their opinion
- ✓ Listen to your child read aloud each day



Be a clear speaker:



- ✓ Speak confidently using the right words. Set an example by taking in complete sentences
- ✓ If English is not your first language, the most important thing is that you speak your own language confidently and well
- ✓ Use clear, simple directions for tasks and behaviours
- ✓ When your child follows directions, show you notice: praise them for listening to you

Get involved every day:



- ✓ Discuss their day with them
- ✓ Try to have a family meal together as often as possible
- ✓ Encourage your child to talk about their views and interests with others
- ✓ Ask them about their homework and get involved with it
- ✓ Switch off the television, laptops and other devices before bedtime: read a bedtime story or chat together instead



Have fun speaking and listening together

- ✓ Play games together such as I-spy, Charades or Articulate
- ✓ Nursery rhymes, songs, jokes and puppets are an important way for children to learn language
- ✓ Read a range of books- fiction, non-fiction and poetry
- ✓ Read to and with your child, as well as listening to them



- ✓ Retell familiar stories and have fun making up new ones
- ✓ Discuss and debate issues in the news

