

6. Language and literacy

6.1 Teachers should develop pupils' spoken language, reading, writing and vocabulary as integral aspects of the teaching of every subject. English is both a subject in its own right and the medium for teaching; for pupils, understanding the language provides access to the whole curriculum. Fluency in the English language is an essential foundation for success in all subjects.

Commented [p3]: School Radio provides a practical, fun and engaging way of achieving this aim. It also provides tools for whole school inclusion and peer review.

Spoken language

6.2 Pupils should be taught to speak clearly and convey ideas confidently using Standard English. They should learn to justify ideas with reasons; ask questions to check understanding; develop vocabulary and build knowledge; negotiate; evaluate and build on the ideas of others; and select the appropriate register for effective communication. They should be taught to give well-structured descriptions and explanations and develop their understanding through speculating, hypothesising and exploring ideas. This will enable them to clarify their thinking as well as organise their ideas for writing.

Commented [p4]: Again, almost all aspects of School Radio will meet this stated inclusion aim. Planning of talk and discussion shows, drama and news will cover the requirements for developing ideas, vocabulary and understanding and program delivery will build confidence and the ability clearly communicate using standard English.

This is the fundamental underpinning of why School Radio is great for the new curriculum.

Reading and writing

6.3 Teachers should develop pupils' reading and writing in all subjects to support their acquisition of knowledge. Pupils should be taught to read fluently, understand extended prose (both fiction and non-fiction) and be encouraged to read for pleasure. Schools should do everything to promote wider reading. They should provide library facilities and set ambitious expectations for reading at home. Pupils should develop the stamina and skills to write at length, with accurate spelling and punctuation. They should be taught the correct use of grammar. They should build on what they have been taught to expand the range of their writing and the variety of the grammar they use. The writing they do should include narratives, explanations, descriptions, comparisons, summaries and evaluations: such writing supports them in rehearsing, understanding and consolidating what they have heard or read.

Commented [p5]: Drama is not specifically referenced as a subject in the curriculum but clearly radio drama could still be used as an effect way of meeting this stated inclusion aim.

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Vocabulary development

6.4 Pupils' acquisition and command of vocabulary are key to their learning and progress across the whole curriculum. Teachers should therefore develop vocabulary actively, building systematically on pupils' current knowledge. They should increase pupils' store of words in general; simultaneously, they should also make links between known and new vocabulary and discuss the shades of meaning in similar words. In this way, pupils expand the vocabulary choices that are available to them when they

Commented [p6]: School Radio can be an effective review tool as it allows presenters to record their output and subject it to both self and peer review.

Highlights School Radio equipment can be used to achieve many aims. Anything could record and playback but radio provides a 'one to many' medium for peer review.