

## Communication and Language in Early Years at St Martins

Communication and language at St Martin's is a priority as many of our children come to us working significantly below age related expectations. We want our children to enter ks1 able to communicate effectively and with the language tools to access the curriculum and the wider world. St Martin's is proud to be an accredited Communication Friendly Setting.

### **Here are some of the things that we do:**

On arrival to our school all children are assessed using Welcom. This information is then used to plan specific interventions and enhance provision in classes, lots of our group work is planned for using the Big Book of Ideas. The children are all assessed regularly and plans are adapted and modified to meet the needs of the children.

In both nursery and reception, we support specific groups of children by delivering booster groups such as Early Talk Boost and Early Listening, Blast and Blast 2. The children are able to access specific speech and language support with our onsite speech and language therapist that works closely with staff, supporting them to plan and deliver targeted support to the children needing it.

Developing children's vocabulary is a priority in the early years. Children are encouraged to be 'Vocabulary Detectives' and are given new words to explore both at home and at school. The learning is shared with their classes and children's photographs are displayed along with any items that they have brought in linked to that word.

In reception, children access weekly 'Drawing Club' sessions. These sessions are linked to our class text where children will be exposed to new and exciting vocabulary. The children will learn actions for these words with the aim to embed them into their day to day repertoire of words.

We love to share books with our children, we read a wide variety of adult selected and child selected books each week. Each morning the children vote for their book of the day that we then share.