

Meeting the Voice 21 Teacher Benchmarks

The Voice 21 Teacher Oracy Benchmarks define excellent classroom practice for oracy. Teachers create the culture of their classroom and based on the needs of their students they make choices every day about what to teach and how to teach it. The Benchmarks provide a framework to identify, guide and empower teachers who are developing and refining their oracy practice, whether within their own classroom or as part of a school-wide approach.

1. Setting high expectations

At Madani, Oracy is used as a teaching and learning tool to consolidate learning and so students can often be discussing complex issues whilst navigating the Oracy framework and the demands of metacognitively reflecting on speech.

2. Valuing every voice

At Madani, teachers scaffold tasks so that all students are able to participate in Oracy activities; through use of modelling and scaffolding with role cards; sentence stems; concept cartoons and much more.

3. Teaching Oracy explicitly

At Madani, teachers regularly unpick learning to talk and model the process of talking in different contexts so that students can understand how register; choice of vocabulary, body language and all aspects of the framework work.

4. Harnessing Oracy to elevate learning

Teachers use Oracy as part of the teaching toolkit here at Madani. It is an aspect of teaching and learning which we believe supports both recall of prior learning and developing understanding of new concepts.

5. Appraising progress in Oracy

At Madani, each teacher appraises Oracy at least once during Key Stage 3 in line with their department approach. This means that all students will complete an Oracy assessment across all subjects in their Key Stage 3 curriculum.

Overall reflections on the Teacher Benchmarks at Madani:

At Madani, staff Oracy and literacy is given paramount importance as we can see the impact on the attainment and achievement of students as well as on the social mobility of our entire learning community.

We ensure that the Teacher Benchmarks are shared to show how they link to our School Benchmarks and our Strategic Plan.

The Teacher Benchmarks have proved to be a useful tool for teachers to self-assess their own Oracy teaching skills; at times many staff have chosen to incorporate these into their own CPD and objectives.