**Spoken language**

At St Mary’s Spoken Language is an integrated part of our behaviour for learning and as a tool for communication. We use the National Curriculum Statutory requirements to plan from and as a school we have identified the following strands as focus areas;

**Listening**

* St Mary’s children are encouraged to be active listeners and speakers and use their words to communicate their feelings, knowledge and areas of learning which they have not understood.
* We teach children what good listening involves, and good listening prompts are displayed in every classroom.
* Cards developed in conjunction with the C and I team are used to support children with C and I needs who have not understood an aspect of learning/ instruction.

**Asking questions**

* We model the use of recall questions and use open ended questions (especially using a think aloud strategy in Guided Reading) to support children in the asking of their own questions to deepen their understanding and knowledge across the curriculum.

**Vocabulary**

* We actively teach tier 2 vocabulary and do not assume that children are familiar with what is being discussed.
* Project vocabulary is part of the spelling provision across Key Stage 1 and 2 and is explicitly taught as part of our projects.
* TAs use vocabulary flashcards to support our ambition of ‘**sticky’** knowledge

**Give well-structured descriptions, explanations and narratives for different purposes**

* The children use colourful semantics to structure their sentences, story maps and text skeletons to organise their ideas for oral presentations.