

A whole school approach to communication...

Are you interested in implementing a whole school approach to communication in your school? If so, The Communication Trust has some schools-based initiatives and approaches which you can use to help achieve this!

No Pens Day Wednesday

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No Pens Day Wednesday is a national speaking and listening event; it usually takes place on a specific date in October, but schools can take part on any day that suits them! Now in its fifth year, *No Pens Day Wednesday* encourages early-years settings, mainstream and specialist schools to spend a day focusing on speaking and listening.

A wide range of **free resources** are available including lesson plans, activity and assembly ideas and information for staff. Evaluation from 2014 highlighted that 80% of respondents benefitted from an increased awareness of speech, language and communication.

95% said they would do things differently around the school as a result of their involvement in *No Pens Day Wednesday*

For further information on *No Pens Day Wednesday*, including case studies from schools that have taken part, visit www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/nopensdaywednesday



Communication Commitment

No Pens Day Wednesday also features as part of The Communication Trust's Communication Commitment!

The *Communication Commitment* is a free step-by-step guide that helps schools develop a whole-school approach to supporting the speech, language and communication skills of all pupils.

It's **free to register** for the Commitment and schools will receive free information, toolkits, resources and a personalised action plan.

The *Communication Commitment* focuses on five priority areas:

- School leadership
- Staff development
- Communication friendly schools
- Supporting pupils with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN)
- Engagement with parents, families and employers

A recent survey found that 82% of schools who have signed up to the Commitment feel that it is a useful tool for creating a whole-school approach to communication

To sign up your school to the *Communication Commitment* or for further information, visit www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/commitment



Communication Leaders

To enhance pupils' communication skills further, the Trust offers free resources aimed at young people aged 10-14 – these resources have been developed as part of a pilot project, *Communication Leaders* which was funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

Communication Leaders is a peer-mentoring approach that supports the language and communication development of primary and secondary pupils. This approach gives children and young people a unique leadership role in communication in their school and homes.

There's a *Communication Leaders* training session, resource packs for primary and secondary Communication Leaders and a video showing staff and pupils talking about their experiences during the pilot.

Evaluation from the pilot indicates that becoming a Communication Leader can help to enhance pupils' communication and confidence.

For more information about *Communication Leaders* or to download the free resources, visit www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/communication-leaders