

Welcome to OxEd Whole Class



This year, your child will be taking part in **OxEd Whole Class**, a programme designed to support the **oral language development** of all children.

Why does oral language matter?

Strong oral language skills help children **communicate, make friends, understand** what they learn in class, and develop the **foundations for reading and writing**. By providing rich opportunities to talk, listen, learn new words and tell stories, OxEd Whole Class helps children build the language skills they need for success in school and beyond.

What activities will my child be doing?

Each week, children will take part in **three 20-minute sessions**, including:

Vocabulary Sessions

Two sessions each week focus on vocabulary development.



Children are introduced to carefully selected "special words" that are appropriate for their age and stage of development.

In each session, children will:

- learn new words and what they mean
- practise using new vocabulary in conversation
- play games, role-play, sing songs, and complete activity sheets
- build confidence in understanding and using a wider range of words.

Narrative Sessions

One session each week focuses on narrative and storytelling.



Children are introduced to engaging stories to develop the skills they need to become confident readers and writers.

In each session, children will:

- listen to and retell stories
- learn about the important parts of stories, including characters, settings and events
- practise answering and asking questions such as *what, when, where* and *when*
- learn how to sequence events.

How can I help at home?

Throughout the programme, your child may bring home short, engaging activities linked to the Whole Class sessions. These help reinforce the **vocabulary** and **storytelling** skills learned in class and are easy to fit into **everyday family routines**. Below are examples of resources your child may receive, as well as simple ways to support language development at home.

Take-Home Cards

These cards provide fun opportunities to practise the week's **special words**. Talking about the words regularly helps children remember them and begin using them independently.

Take-Home Card GAME 1: KEEP THE BEAT Tap, shake or clap a simple rhythm and ask your child to copy it. Once they can do it, alter the rhythm in different ways: • Make it shorter or longer. • Make it faster or slower. • Use your hands or your feet. • Tap a soupcan with a wooden spoon. Get your child to take the lead and copy them. 	Take-Home Card I WENT TO MARKET Play 'I Went to Market' buying clothes. • Say, 'I went to market and I bought a belt'. • Your child must repeat this and add another item of clothing, for example 'I went to market and I bought a belt and a jumper'. • Take turns and add a new item each time. • When you forget, just start again! You can play this game using other things (animals, toys, food etc.).  Special Words: buy/bought, clothes, boots, jacket, helmet, belt, jumper, pyjamas, dressing gown, slippers, forget, remember More Words: socks, shoes, trainers, T-shirt, jeans, skirt, trousers, hat, boots, coat, top, shorts, vest, suit, pants	Take-Home Card CATCH Throw and catch a ball together. Throw it fast, throw it slow! • You could use something else to play catch: - a balloon - a crumpled up piece of paper - a pair of socks. • Take turns to throw and catch.  Special Words: throw, catch, fingers, thumbs, fast, slow More Words: your turn, my turn	Take-Home Card SOMETIMES, NEVER Play a game with your child where you both think of: • Something that you always do. • Something that you sometimes do. • Something that you only did once. • Something that you never do. How many red or funny things can you think of?  Special Words: always, sometimes, once, never More Words: often, usually, rarely, frequently, only	Take-Home Card PARK FUN Go to a garden or park and look at the flowers and trees. • Count and compare the stems, leaves and petals. • Feel the different tree trunks - can you get your arms round them? • The tree's roots might trip you up - can you spot them under the ground?  Special Words: stem, leaf, leaves, petal, how many?, plant, roots, trunk More Words: count, look, compare
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Narrative Sequence Cards

Storytelling is a challenging skill that develops through practice. These cards allow children to retell stories to family members, helping them practise recalling events, sequencing information and using story language.



Talking Together

One of the best ways to support your child's language development is simply to **talk together** – in English or in any language spoken at home:

- Ask about their day and listen carefully to their ideas.
- Introduce and use new words in everyday conversations.
- Read books together and talk about the characters and events.
- Encourage them to retell stories and describe things that have happened.