

Pupil Voice

Why do we gather pupils' voices and why is it important?

Children and young people need to be provided with meaningful opportunities to share their experiences, views and hopes. This could be related to school or home life. They need to know that it is safe, that it is important for them to express their views, and that what they say is valued, will be listened to, and considered.

It is important to gather and use pupil voices within the work that we complete. By gathering the pupil views (i.e., likes, dislikes, successful strategies of support) and using this to plan sessions and learning tasks that are motivating and engaging, the pupils are more likely to achieve. Being involved in the development of provision pupils are more likely to take ownership and work towards the goals set. Pupil voice activities can also help to build relationships between the adults and pupils and ensures key information is kept up to date. There are different approaches to collecting pupils' voices, for example, conversations and worksheets, games, visuals, and drawing.

What does it look like in practice?

There is no one way to collect a pupil's voice. Every child is different and what works for one child may not work for another.

Here are some ideas to get started:

- Create regular opportunities for children and young people to share their views
- A 'suggestion box' placed in the classroom
- Books and photographs to prompt discussions
- Puppets/dolls/small-world play
- Artwork/drawing
- Questioning (see example templates below)

The Alien Postcard

Introduce the Alien and the story about him not knowing anything about the school, ask some questions for the student to answer in their postcard



Create a mind map with the student to help them work out what they want to say about school use 'branches' Lessons, children, teachers etc. and support the student to make some statements about each branch.

Use the mind map to write a reply to the Alien, allow the student to decorate it, draw a picture etc.

Communication Passport

<p>Name:</p> <p>D.O.B:</p> <p>School:</p> <p>Important information about me...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • 	<p>I Like....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • <p>I can't stand it!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •
<p>Things I find difficult</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • <p>I learn best when...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • 	<p>Fun things!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • <p>Things that help me stay calm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •
<p>Communication - DO...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • <p>Communication - DON'T...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • 	<p>When I am worried...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • <p>How you can help me</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •

Visual likes and dislikes

 <p style="font-size: 1.2em; color: blue;">I Like...</p>	 <p style="font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">I Don't Like...</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;"> <tr> <td>TV</td> <td>school</td> <td>maths</td> </tr> <tr> <td>reading</td> <td>crisps</td> <td>art</td> </tr> <tr> <td>swimming</td> <td>pizza</td> <td>trains</td> </tr> <tr> <td>dinosaurs</td> <td>loud sounds</td> <td>football</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ice cream</td> <td>sand</td> <td>glue</td> </tr> </table>	TV	school	maths	reading	crisps	art	swimming	pizza	trains	dinosaurs	loud sounds	football	ice cream	sand	glue
TV	school	maths															
reading	crisps	art															
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dinosaurs	loud sounds	football															
ice cream	sand	glue															

SUPER ME

AMAZING

If I had SUPERPOWERS

I'd have...

MY GOALS

SUPERHERO FACTS

I AM _____ YEARS OLD.

MY BIRTHDAY _____

MY FAVORITE FOOD _____

MY FAVORITE BOOK _____

MY FAVORITE SPORT _____

MY FAVORITE MOVIE _____

MY FAMILY IS MADE UP OF _____

MY NAME _____

MY FAVORITE PART OF ME _____

PICTURE OF ME _____