



Developing Debating Skills – Training for staff

Why?

"Honest disagreement is often a good sign of progress." *Mahatma Gandhi*

- Debating develops speaking and listening skills
- Speaking in front of an audience builds confidence and self-esteem
- Debating builds critical listening skills and the ability to respond to what other people are saying. Being able to see things from a range of perspectives is a real life skill
- Written work improves as debating helps students understand how to structure their work and make their points clearly.
- Debating helps develop research skills.
- Debating broadens horizons and encourages exploration of big ethical questions.
- It is highly validating for children to be asked for their opinion, and shows them that their thoughts and voice matter
- Recent research from the University of Bedfordshire and the English-Speaking Union revealed that **learning to debate can improve children's SATs results** by between six and 19 per cent in all subjects.

Impacts

- "We have been doing persuasive writing and arguments in literacy and the debating has definitely helped with forming arguments."
- "It has helped lots of children to gain confidence. We now have a debating group in our school."

Objectives

- To provide staff with an understanding of how a formal debate takes place and how to prepare pupils
- To provide strategies in preparing pupils to become effective at debating
- To support staff in helping pupils develop their speaking and listening skills, particularly in response to each other
- To support staff in enabling pupils to develop written skills in presenting an argument and persuasive writing

Course Outline

This practical 2 hour session covers how a formal debate takes place. It provides an opportunity to develop strategies for supporting a variety of speaking and listening skills as well as the specific skills needed for debating such as persuading an audience, counter arguing and responding to questions.

For more information, cost and to book a place please contact info@L3Education.co.uk