

## Challenge

I disagree because...

I see what you mean but...

I'm not sure I agree because...

I see your point but it's also true that...

I respect your opinion but I think...

## Clarify

Do you mean..?

In other words, are you saying that...?

So what you are saying is..?

Can you explain that again, please?

## Share ideas and opinions

I think... because...

In my opinion...

I feel that . . .

For me, the most important / best/  
worst...

## Summarise

To summarise, I think...

So what we've decided is...

I think the main ideas are...

Do you agree that the main points  
are...?



St Mark's Primary School

# The ABCS of Talking and Listening

Group Discussion

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are committed to raising standards in literacy for all of our children. Literacy is a subject which underpins all learning and our teachers foster literacy skills whenever they encourage children to listen, talk, read or write. When children learn their own or another language, they begin by listening, then talking and then extending what they have learned in reading or writing. We are very keen to promote the vital skills of talking and listening in their own right and also to develop a confidence in spoken language that will extend, in due course, to writing.

Building upon a recent focus by teaching staff, we are introducing **talking and listening homework** at St Mark's Primary. This topic will frequently (but not always) be the same throughout the school. The children will then be given the task of discussing it at home during the week. We believe this discussion-based homework is just as valuable as any written homework and will link to learning experiences in class. You will receive clear information about the topics involved and guidance on the amount of time to spend on the activities.

## Agree

I agree with ... because...

I think that too because...

My view is the same because...

## Add details

For example / for instance...

Because...

My reasons are...

This is due to...

What I mean by this is...

My evidence for this is...

## Begin

Let's talk about...

What do you think about..?

How can we..?

We need to decide...

To begin with...

Why don't we start by...?

I wonder...

## Build on

Good point. I also think...

I'd like to add to that by saying...

Just to build on ...'s point

I would like to build on what... said.