



Yardleys School

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FUTURE

WISE WORDS: LITERACY THAT SPEAKS YOUR SUBJECT

**Embedding oracy and disciplinary literacy in
every lesson**

Over the course of the next academic year, Yardleys is offering eight CPD sessions, targeted at Lead Practitioners, Middle Leaders and Senior Leaders, which focus on disciplinary literacy and oracy.

"Reading and writing float on a sea of talk"
(James Briton, 1976)



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www.yardleys-vle.com

OUR SESSIONS

Full information of our sessions can be found on our website:

www.yardleys-vle.com – Our School – Yardleys Outreach CPD Programme

(All sessions take place from 2 - 4.30pm at Yardleys School)

Session 1 - Oracy in Action

Thursday 16th October 2025

Aims

- Sharing examples of different oracy strategies and the rationale behind these
- How to improve the quality of student talk through the 'third turn'
- Exploring the planning and sequencing of oracy

Session 2 - KS2 Grammar and Why it Matters

Thursday 13th November 2025

Aims

- Develop awareness of KS2 Grammar Test and its content
- Demonstrate the powerful impact of explicit grammar teaching in secondary schools
- Suggest how to roll grammar out across a secondary school
- Consider the impact of the grammar test on the profile of high prior attaining pupils

Session 3 - Writing Curricular in English

Thursday 4th December 2025

Aims

- Designing a sequential KS3 writing curriculum that teaches beyond the GCSE exams
- Moving writing from average accuracy to characterful authorial voice
- Embedding and adapting grammar into writing curricular
- Identifying and teaching grammar for fiction and non-fiction writing

Session 4 - What is Disciplinary Literacy?

Thursday 29th January 2026

Aims

- Explain what Disciplinary Literacy is and how it differs from Literacy
- Consider the main principles of Disciplinary Literacy
- Consider how different subjects might use reading
- Look at how Disciplinary Literacy for writing can be embedded in CPD and Pedagogy

Session 5 - Disciplinary Literacy in Humanities

Thursday 19th March 2026

Aims

- Shift focus from teaching only substantive knowledge to include disciplinary knowledge
- Simplify command words in Geography and apply substantive knowledge to disciplinary questions
- Review examples of writing pedagogy in Geography
- Embed disciplinary writing mastery into KS3 History
- Map progression for writing in History
- Review examples of writing pedagogy in History
- Use model answers in RE to enhance attainment

Session 6 - Disciplinary Literacy in Maths

Thursday 23rd April 2026

Aims

- Consider the issues that pupils have with reading in mathematics
- Demonstrate some techniques that could be used to support pupils with mathematical reading
- Consider the issues of mathematical language for pupils
- Demonstrate the need for a language rich mathematics classroom

Session 7 - Disciplinary Literacy in Science

Thursday 14th May 2026

Aims

- Consider the shift from teaching substantive knowledge to teaching substantive and disciplinary knowledge
- Consider how to understand the command words used in science subjects and scaffold pupil responses so that they actually explain or describe
- Understand the different requirements of the same command in the different Science disciplines
- See examples of writing pedagogy in Science and develop faculty wide processes

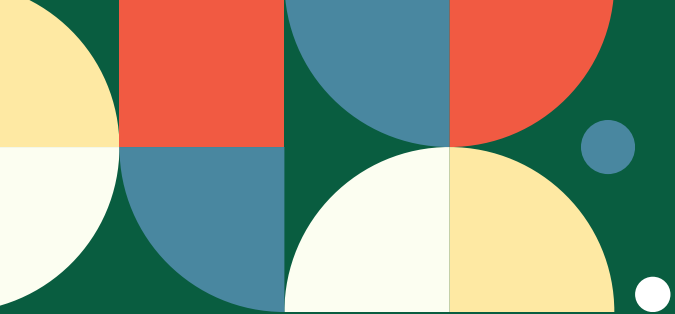
Session 8 - Oracy: The Fundamentals

Oracy: The Fundamentals

Aims

- To understand what oracy is and the impact it can have on students
- To understand how classroom talk can support learning
- To explore what oracy should look like in the classroom

Please note, resources will only be provided for those in attendance of the sessions.



Why Yardleys?

“Made by teachers, for teachers”

We firmly believe we have developed a tried and tested CPD programme that is able to support schools across Birmingham

- **Evidence-Based Pedagogy:** Informed by the best possible research, the strategies which we will share have been trialled by our own practitioners here at Yardleys
- **Silver Bullet:** Disciplinary literacy and oracy is a proven method to boost academic progress and close attainment gaps
- **Cross-curricular approach:** Our training equips every subject teacher

What are we offering?

This leaflet gives an overview of the sessions available over the course of the academic year.

For a subscription of £125 per school we are offering:

The ability to attend all of the eight sessions, or opt into the sessions you prefer

The ability to send up to two delegates to each session (these delegates can be different for each session)

The offer of a 20% early bird discount if you sign up before Friday 3rd October 2025



Testimonials

If you're still unsure, here's some testimonials from our sessions we ran this year.

I found today's Grammar at KS2 session very useful: will be using all of the tips

The English Writing Curricular session is really useful to my role as KS3 lead. It will be useful to help me in our review/planning stage

The step-by-step strategy of how to implement was great. Brilliant examples of teacher's and pupils writing - ideas of how to inform KS3 curriculum

Very interesting and relevant to my subject area. I have learned a lot about Disciplinary Literacy in Maths and it has made me more conscious of this as a maths teacher

Excellent resources, just wish this session could have been a whole day!

To discover how oracy has been tackled and implemented at a whole school level was so insightful

Another thought provoking and inspiring session

Additional Outreach Work

If your school would be interested in any further follow up consultation, or having a session delivered in your own school, then we are able to support with this. Please note, a charge will be incurred to cover our release fees and resources

We also offer a range of packages linked to oracy, see below for more details.

Oracy Fundamentals (Everyone)

- What is oracy?
- Why is oracy gaining so much momentum in education?
- How does classroom talk support learning?
- What should oracy look like in the classroom?

Oracy: Classroom Practice (Lead Practitioners & Classroom Teachers)

- Getting to experience a live 'oracy rich' lesson
- Sharing examples of oracy strategies and the rationale behind these
- Using the Third Turn to improve the quality of student talk
- Exploring the planning of oracy

Curriculum Development in Oracy (Middle Leaders)

- How do you use the Oracy Skills Framework as a tool to support your curriculum?
- How do you embed and sequence oracy across your curriculum?
- How do you quality assure the effectiveness of an oracy curriculum?

Making Oracy a Whole School Priority (Senior Leaders)

- How do you effectively make oracy a whole school priority?

(Using a case study from our own school, we will share how we developed a whole school focus around oracy and what this looked like in the first year)