

TalkTheTalk

CONFIDENT COMMUNICATION FOR LIFE



ORACY IMPACT REPORT

ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021

Welcome to our Impact Report for Academic Year 2020/2021

It's been a challenging year...

Like everyone else our academic year started with the promise of easing restrictions, only to be followed by two national lockdowns in October 2020 and January 2021 and students eventually being allowed back into the classroom in March 2021.

At that point we had delivered 233 workshops to over 6058 students.

What's the impact of all of this? It's too early to tell but what we have established is that students across secondary schools and sixth form need our core programmes; Talk About Transition, Talk About Communication and Talk About The Future now more than ever.

Initial reports from our trainers delivering our workshops note that students are struggling 'post pandemic' with conversation skills, class interaction and confidence.

Despite the pandemic, we pushed on and worked really hard with teachers and schools to deliver over 889 crucial workshops by the end of the Summer term, including more than 50 for Summer schools.

We may not know the overall impact of the pandemic but what we do know is that we will continue to reach as many students as possible through our programmes, to ensure they are equipped with skills for life to communicate with confidence.

*Andrea Ryan
Director of Development*

TALK THE TALK IMPACT 2020/2021



23,000 STUDENTS
TRAINED BY TALK THE TALK



IN **135**
SECONDARY SCHOOLS



SPANNING ACROSS
ENGLAND AND WALES



AND DELIVERED BY **30**
COMMUNICATION TRAINING EXPERTS

SINCE 2013 TALK THE TALK HAS:

TRAINED
OVER **138,000**
SECONDARY
STUDENTS

DELIVERED
OVER
5,545
WORKSHOPS
ACROSS
THE UK

PROVIDED
OVER **26,400**
HOURS OF
STUDENT
TRAINING

Talk About Transition

Making a successful move to secondary school is vital for students' confidence, self-esteem, engagement and academic achievement.

Talk About Transition workshops support students using oracy based activities and strategies to develop greater self-confidence and resilience to assist the successful transition from primary to secondary school.

'Having had experience of the Talk About Transition programme in previous years, I know that the activities enable students to get to know each other very quickly and teachers to get to know their tutor group very quickly. One of the biggest benefits is the increase in confidence of students that can be seen in just half a day. Students that arrive looking quite anxious – and there were more of those this year – leave with big smiles on their faces.'

Sherryl Bareham, Headteacher

DORCAN ACADEMY, SWINDON

3rd September, 2020
Year 7 x 6 classes

'Absolutely excellent. The confidence, pace and character-building techniques were faultless'

Mr Coles.

'The training was fantastic, an excellent way for the students to learn about each other and a great way to observe students from a different perspective'

Ms Holroyd

STOCKSBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL, SHEFFIELD

4th September, 2020
Year 7 x 6 classes

Talk About Communication

Talk About Communication is an engaging oracy workshop which teaches and develops the use of structure in presentations, essay writing and exam answers. Students are taught to identify and use persuasive language techniques to get their message across.

ON AVERAGE TAC STUDENTS REPORTED FEELING:



45%

more confident speaking
in front of other people



43%

more confident delivering a short
talk in front of their peers



63%

better equipped with the skills
for confident communication

‘As a school we had decided that Oracy was a focus and a priority for our students. We wanted to equip them with a narrative and a reference for speaking in front of others and we wanted the staff to have the knowledge and the passion to help them flourish. Then Covid hit!

We could have deferred or cancelled but decided that we would push ahead and Talk the Talk were very supportive and flexible and worked with us to adhere to our COVID risk assessment. The communication before the event was excellent and the paperwork was straightforward yet thorough.

The day was fantastic- the students were fully engaged throughout the whole day and our staff were so impressed with the quality and the stamina of the trainers! They were professional, well prepared, adaptable and our students responded brilliantly to their techniques and training.’

Helen Fay, Vice Principal

**CARDINAL
NEWMAN
CATHOLIC
SCHOOL,
LUTON**

October, 2020

Talk About Communication Plus

Voicing an opinion in a group situation can often be intimidating. What will others think of what you have to say?

Talk About Communication Plus is an engaging oracy workshop that focuses on Group Talk, Debating, Negotiation and Listening Skills, providing students with practical opportunities to put these to the test.

ON AVERAGE TAC+ STUDENTS REPORTED FEELING:



31%

better equipped to get their opinions across to others



33%

more confident when presenting a talk



30%

more confident in persuading others

'The training is excellent, and all the students have progressed since last week's Talk About Communication workshop. They have built up confidence and communication skills to debate to an audience.'

L Hoult, Community and Cohesion Officer

**THE RUTH
GORSE
ACADEMY,
LEEDS**

21st March, 2022
Ambassador Group

Talk About The Future

Leaving school to enter the world of work, further training or education is both an exciting and daunting time. The prospect of independence is often overwhelming.

Talk About The Future supports students preparing to leave school or college by developing the competencies needed to take this next step with confidence and a positive mindset.

ON AVERAGE TAF STUDENTS REPORTED FEELING:



37%

more confident in an interview situation



39%

more confident in talking about their life experiences



18%

better equipped for life after school

'A brilliant and well thought out workshop was delivered today to aid confident communication with a group of our Year 11 students. Talk About The Future helped students recognise and communicate their experiences at this important time of transition. The trainer was fantastic with the students and the workbooks will be a valuable reference in the future.'

Katharine Link, Head of Careers

**RICKMANSWORTH
SCHOOL**

December 2020



Talk The Talk

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