

A young woman in a school uniform is speaking to a group of students in a school hallway. The hallway has purple walls and a display board with various papers and photos. Other students are visible in the background.

Empower your students to find their
voice for success in school and life

International Oracy Leaders Programme

May - June 2023





Become an International Oracy Leader!

We are delighted to be accepting expressions of interest for our International Oracy Leaders programme 2023, launching in the summer term. Over the following pages you will find further information about the programme and what's involved.

If you're interested but have questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch (hello@voice21.org) and we'll be happy to talk you through it.

The International Oracy Leaders programme is open teachers and school leaders in non-UK schools only.



We are Voice 21, the oracy education charity

We believe that all students should be empowered to find their voice for success in school and in life.

We're on a mission to transform the learning and life chances of young people through talk.

We work with teachers and school leaders, equipping them with the oracy expertise and resources to transform their classroom practice and school culture.

Our work is not about one off competitions, short term interventions or extra-curricular clubs but the sustained and comprehensive commitment to verbal literacy in every classroom, so that all students can find their voice.



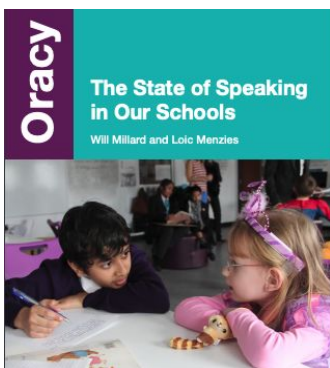
Our story

We were established in 2015 at School 21, an all-through state school in East London, after a successful pilot with the Education Endowment Fund saw promise in our approach to oracy education and its impact on students' speaking and listening skills and academic engagement.

Since then, we have grown a national and international profile, working with over 7000 teachers, becoming an independent charity with a mission to ensure all students receive a high-quality oracy education.

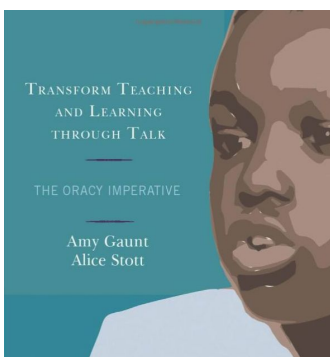
Having had the privilege of supporting and learning from thousands of teachers, we have been able to further strengthen our approaches and understanding of what works from early years all the way through secondary school education.





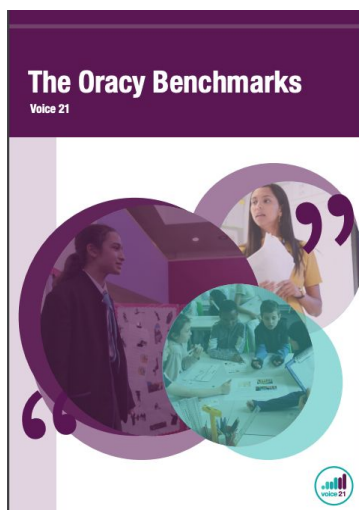
The State of Speaking in our Schools

Our first report which highlighted the lack of professional development for teachers interested in, and committed to, oracy education. The report established the case for oracy in the UK education system and called for educators to get talking in class.



Transform teaching and learning through talk: The Oracy Imperative

Our book, written by two of our Directors, Alice Stott and Amy Gaunt, blends academic research and evidence, with first-hand classroom experiences and practical strategies. Challenging teachers at any stage in their career to think deeply about how to integrate oracy into their own practice.



The Oracy Benchmarks

The Oracy Benchmarks identify and exemplify the active ingredients that make a high-quality oracy education. As our guiding framework, which is the result of years of research and experience working with schools nationally, they are integral to the support we provide to Voice 21 Oracy Schools.

The impact of a high-quality oracy education

Oracy is our ability to articulate ideas, develop understanding and engage with others through spoken language and listening.

In school, oracy is a powerful tool for learning; by teaching students to become more effective speakers and listeners we empower them to better understand themselves, each other and the world around them.

Evidence suggests that improving the quality of classroom talk has a measurable impact on academic attainment, boosting retention of subject-specific knowledge, accelerating vocabulary acquisition and developing students' reasoning skills.

However, the benefits of oracy also extend beyond the classroom, supporting the development of students' confidence and self-esteem. The oracy skills acquired by students at school are also prized in the world of work; good grades and qualifications may get a candidate to interview but it will be their performance there that lands them the job.



Impact

100%

International Oracy Leaders from 2021 who responded to our evaluation rated the content of the programme as 'Excellent'

83%

International Oracy Leaders from 2021 who responded to our evaluation rated the facilitation of the programme as 'Excellent', with the remaining 17% rating the facilitation at 'Good'

“Everything was excellent - only wish it had lasted longer - for the whole school year!” -

Teacher, Goulburn South Public School, Australia

I honestly felt everything in the programme was useful. The Voice 21 Exchange is a fantastic resource! Seeing so many examples of Oracy in action has been incredibly useful

Education researcher, Chile

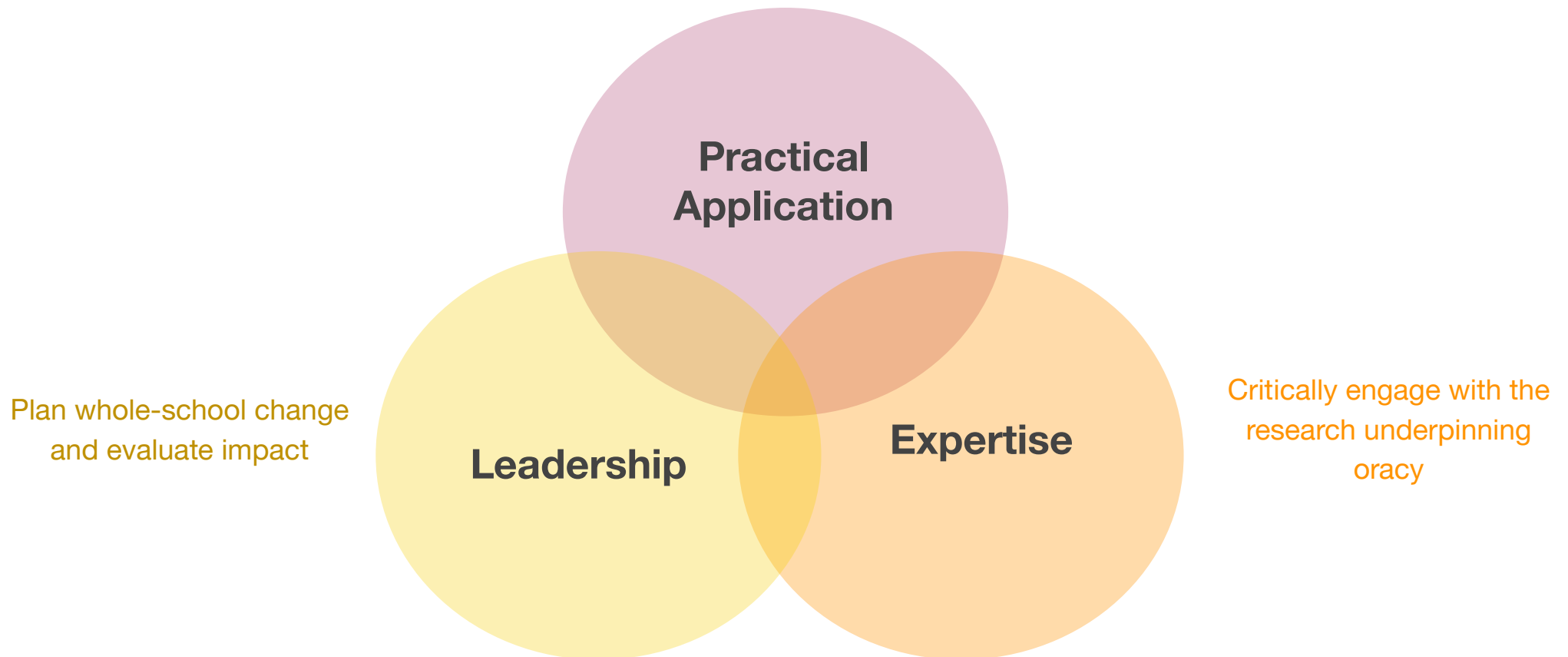
Thank you for an excellent online professional learning experience. I have gained a great deal from the experience and have been inspired.

Teacher, University of New England

Programme design

Our International Oracy Leaders Programme consists of three key components - **practical application, expertise and leadership** - which ensure that you have the relevant knowledge, skills and tools to ensure students across your school find their voice for success in the classroom and beyond.

Understand what it means to provide a high-quality oracy education at a classroom and school level



Programme contents

4 x half-day CPD sessions

Delivered over Zoom

All sessions will not only provide expert input and training but also enable you to network and share ideas with leaders across a range of different schools.

1:1 consultancy and coaching from Voice 21

Delivered over Zoom

You'll be assigned a dedicated Voice 21 mentor who will support you to hone your plans for oracy across your school.

Online learning

Access to over

As well as attending live, online sessions you will have access to a virtual learning environment, including a number of self-led modules to support you to develop your knowledge and understanding of oracy in practice and improve the outcomes of your students.

Programme tutors

The programme will be led by internationally-renowned experts in oracy.



Alice Scott

Alice Stott is Director of Programmes at Voice 21. She is passionate about redressing educational inequality and Voice 21's work is focused on schools serving the least advantaged children and young people. Alice is co-author of 'Transform Teaching and Learning Through Talk: the Oracy Imperative' (2019) and Voice 21's Oracy Benchmarks (2019). Before joining Voice 21, Alice taught at School 21 in Stratford, East London and at other schools in London.

Meshendia Dampier

Meshendia Dampier is a Programme Lead at Voice 21. As a Programme Lead, she supports schools to develop their vision for oracy and develop their curriculum so they can provide students with a range of opportunities enhance their oracy skills. Meshendia has a passion for curriculum innovation and finding ways to enhance pupil voice and choice in the learning process. Before joining Voice 21, Meshendia taught in the primary sector, with additional responsibilities for leading KS1, and Phonics.



Programme tutors

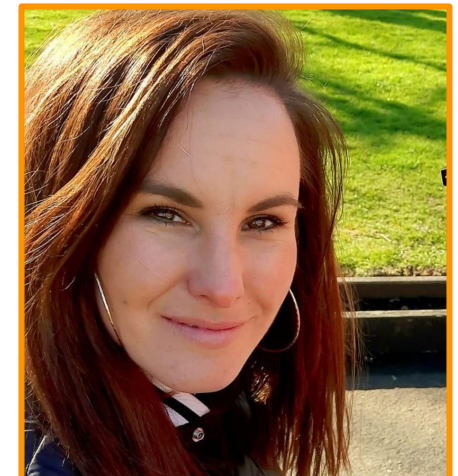


Claire Fowler

Claire Fowler is a Programme Lead at Voice 21. Within her role, she supports teachers to develop their classroom practice so that they are able to deliver a high-quality oracy education which supports students to both learn to talk and learn through talk. She also works closely with school leaders to develop implementation plans and professional development training for staff. Before joining Voice 21, Claire taught for over 15 years in the primary sector, working across both KS1 and KS2. She has experience leading teams in upper and lower KS2 and was English lead for 7 years before being able to pursue her long standing passion for oracy as a Communication and Language lead.

Laura Lester-Binney

Laura Lester-Binney is a Programme Lead at Voice 21. Within her role, she supports teachers and school leaders, across primary, SEND and secondary settings to embed a high-quality oracy education. Laura has a passion for enhancing classroom practice: embedding a foundation for oracy within the classroom through setting high expectations, valuing every voice and explicitly teaching oracy in order to elevate subject knowledge and learning. Before joining Voice 21, Laura was a teacher, and leader, in the primary sector for over a decade. She has experience leading teaching and learning, KS1, KS2, English and Mental Health and Wellbeing. Prior to teaching, she worked as a learning mentor with post 16 students, and as a drama practitioner: supporting young people and vulnerable adults with learning disabilities to find their voice.



Key outcomes

Outcomes for participants

The International Oracy Leaders programme will enable you to become an expert practitioner in oracy. You will:

- Understand what it means to provide a high-quality oracy education at a classroom and school level
- Critically engage with the research underpinning oracy
- Plan whole-school change and evaluate impact
- Be part of a global network of expert oracy practitioners, supporting each other and sharing tips via a dedicated virtual learning environment
- Gain the resources and skills to support other teachers to develop their oracy practice
- Resources to support you to cascade training in your school

Benefits for your students

The evidence shows that speaking and listening skills underpin so many facets of school life, from attainment to wellbeing, literacy to life chances. Providing a high-quality oracy education to your students is linked to:

- Improved academic outcomes
- Increased confidence
- Improved social and emotional wellbeing
- Skills for thriving in life beyond school, particularly further study and career prospects

By the end of the programme your students will:

- Understand what underpins good oracy skills and how they can improve their own
- Be confident navigating a range of contexts for talk
- Effectively engage in oracy approaches to aid their learning

Key dates and times

Unit 1: Introducing oracy	Unit 2: Developing dialogue	Unit 3: Self-led learning	Unit 4: Curriculum Planning	Unit 5: Whole-School Culture
Thursday 4th May Option A: 7am - 10am OR Option B: 4pm - 7pm	Tuesday 9th May Option A: 7am - 10am OR Option B: 4pm - 7pm	To be arranged one-to-one	Thursday 1st June Option A: 7am - 10am OR Option B: 4pm - 7pm	Thursday 8th June Option A: 7am - 10am OR Option B: 4pm - 7pm
<p>Delve into the Oracy Framework and explore practical strategies to introduce oracy into the classroom.</p>	<p>Examine the role of talk in learning, exploring dialogic pedagogy and questioning.</p>	<p>In this period you'll receive 1:1 consultancy session from a Voice 21 expert. This will enable you to develop your expertise by implementing approaches from the first two units in your classroom and working through our self-led online learning modules.</p>	<p>Explore how curriculum underpins the provision of a high-quality oracy education and consider how oracy can be developed across different subjects and phases. Plan a context-specific whole-school oracy curriculum.</p>	<p>Take a step back and consider how a culture of oracy can be created across your whole school.</p>

Please note all times are British Summer Time (BST). You can pick either Option A (7am - 10am BST) or Option B (4pm - 7pm BST), depending on which is more convenient for your timezone.

Welcome webinars

If you have any questions or would like to find out more about the programme structure, content and timeline, Voice 21 will be holding two information webinars on the following dates:

- [Wednesday 15th March - 11am-12pm](#)
- [Monday 27th March - 4pm-5pm](#)

Register now using the links above.

The webinars will be recorded for those who are unable to attend. For any specific queries, please contact us at hello@voice21.org.



Ready to become an International Oracy Leader?

We are delighted that you are interested in becoming an International Oracy Leader!

If you join us, you'll join a network of teachers across the globe similarly dedicated to providing a high-quality oracy education for their students.

Register now via the link below to book up to five places for your staff. Places are **£995 for the first ticket per institution and then £825 for all subsequent tickets.**

The programme will be delivered online via Zoom. We will contact participants a week before the programme starts to confirm logistical details.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

If you have any questions, please contact our team:
hello@voice21.org





Final word

“

Since we started working with Voice 21 last year, my development as a teacher of oracy has been impactful and exciting. I loved seeing the oracy skills of the children in my class progress so far within just half of an academic year. I'm really looking forward to further developing my skills and seeing even greater impact in the classroom.

Finette Devrell, Teacher
Parson Street Primary School

“

It has been a pleasure to watch the students grow in confidence and begin to trust each other in sharing their ideas. We went from a class who were afraid of getting it wrong to fighting over who was going to read different parts. The impact on their writing skills has been immense!”

Caroline Fujikawa
Oasis Academy Oldham

“

This work is going to make such a difference to the children at our school, at such an pivotal point in their lives.

Kate Spencer-Allen
St Matthews Primary
School



Email us: hello@voice21.org
Tweet us: [@voice21oracy](https://twitter.com/voice21oracy)