

# The Voices Foundation and the National Curriculum



## Early Years

In keeping with the Early Years Foundation Stage framework, our programme encourages small children to move to music, explore their voice and build up a repertoire of rhymes, songs and games. It also encourages involvement and aids development, particularly concerning use of language, fluency of speech, listening skills, memory, coordination and social skills.

A number of our Advisory Teachers specialise in Early Years and can deliver bespoke training in Children's Centres and Extended Schools.

Our programme can help children to achieve the 6-point target in 2 dimensions of the Foundation Stage Profile:

## **Communication, language and literacy**

- Speech and language - singing is an ideal language development medium
- Memory - through repetition of songs and rhymes, which are more easily remembered than words of speech
- Communication - call and response and actions during activity-based and group songs/games help develop awareness of others and encourage friendship and social interaction

## **Personal, social and emotional development**

- Self-esteem and confidence - simple songs and rhymes are easy to learn, and can increase confidence dramatically as children learn to sing alone as well as in a group
- Self-control - singing games can help children to follow a leader, be a leader, and wait their turn
- Cooperation and listening skills - songs and rhymes involve listening and responding to instructions
- Involving families - parents and carers can be involved at home, where children will inevitably repeat songs and games they have learned