



Getting started with oracy Transcription: Video 2

Interviewees

Cynthia James

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Rachel West

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Dr Martin Johnson

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Let's talk about ground rules

Cynthis James

Ground rules are conditions for talk that have been agreed upon by the teacher and the learners. So, it is important because it assists in the creation of a safe space for everyone to contribute to the discussion.

Rachel West

It's very important that talk ground rules are set up as a group, including ideas from the learners and also from the teacher. And this is because dialogic talk is underpinned by a democratic ethos where everything is decided as a group.

Cynthia James

One example of a ground rule is for people to express opinions, either agreement or disagreement in a respectful manner. So having this kind of rule would ensure that everyone feels safe to contribute their opinions and ideas.

Rachel West

So, one example of a talk ground rule might be that learners will invite other learners to speak and to hear their opinions. Another example might be that people give reasons for their opinions.

Dr Martin Johnson

One of the things that we see happening is the importance of turn-taking. And once we understand that turn-taking is a really key element of talk it opens our sort of panorama of how we see talk.

Rachel West

If these ground rules are recorded on the wall and displayed in the room, it's something that people can always be thinking about while they're doing the task and while they're having their discussions. And then at the end of the session, we can look back at that list and think, how far did we manage to apply those rules? Which ones were difficult to apply? Which ones were easy to apply?