CARSHALTON BOYS SPORTS COLLEGE ORACY — YEAR 9

Key Stage 3 | ESB Level 2 Certificate in Speech | 2026–2027

Excellence • Character • Aspiration

Subject Vision — Why Oracy Matters

Our Vision

Oracy at Carshalton Boys is built on the conviction that every boy deserves to be heard. Year 9 prepares pupils for the externally assessed ESB Level 2 Certificate in Speech (Grade 4), Speech to Connect pathway: a four-minute biographical talk, a memorised performance, a prepared reading and a formal group discussion, assessed by an ESB examiner.

Our Four-Strand Purpose

- **Physical —** voice and body: breath, projection, pace, pause and tone; eye contact, posture and gesture — the physical strand of the Oracy Framework.
- **Linguistic —** language and register: Standard English, tier 2 and tier 3 vocabulary, and rhetorical devices chosen for purpose and audience.
- **Cognitive —** content and thinking: research, structuring extended talk, reasoning with evidence and audience awareness — the cognitive strand.
- **Social & Emotional —** talking with others: active listening, turn-taking, building on and courteously challenging others, and managing nerves.

Curriculum Journey — Learning Sequence by Term

UNITS 1–2	UNITS 3–4	UNITS 5–6
Foundations & the Biographical Talk	**Speaking by Heart & Prepared Reading**	**Discussion, Mock & Final Assessment**
Unit 1 establishes the four strands of the Oracy Framework, Standard English, voice and structure; Unit 2 is the four-minute Biographical Talk (40% of the ESB assessment) — researching, structuring, rehearsing and delivering with audio-visual support.	Unit 3, Speaking by Heart, trains memorisation and personal interpretation of a chosen piece; Unit 4, Commentary on a Prepared Reading, develops analytical comment on character and expressive reading aloud — each worth 20% of the assessment.	Unit 5 is a formal group discussion — questioning, listening and responding with substance; Unit 6 integrates all four sections, runs a full mock, and culminates in the live, externally-assessed ESB Level 2 Certificate in Speech.

A Spiral Curriculum This course deliberately deepens the spoken-language work of Years 7 and 8: reading aloud returns in the Prepared Reading, and discussion skills are formalised in Unit 5. The four Oracy Framework strands recur in every unit, so pupils meet familiar ideas in new, more demanding contexts. The course prepares pupils directly for the GCSE Spoken Language Endorsement, memorised quotation in GCSE Literature and sixth-form seminars, with progression beyond Grade 4 to Grade 5 and the UCAS-bearing Level 3 Graded Examinations.

Assessment Information

How Pupils Are Assessed

- PATHS formal feedback — a mark-less target set after each performance is acted on through re-rehearsal or written reflection in green pen
- Securing / Exceeding standards — every task specifies a Pass/Good Pass standard and a Merit Plus/Distinction standard
- Minimum three PATHS cycles per term — built into the baseline and unit assessments leading to the live ESB exam
- External assessment — the final grade (Unsuccessful to Distinction) is set by an ESB-trained assessor, not the class teacher

Formal Assessment by Unit

- Units 1–2 — Baseline talk, then two PATHS cycles on the full four-minute Biographical Talk (Lessons 7–8)
- Units 3–4 — PATHS cycle on the memorised Speaking by Heart performance and the Prepared Reading commentary
- Unit 6 — Full mock across all four sections, then the live, externally-assessed ESB Level 2 Certificate in Speech

PATHS Marking Framework

Every formal assessment is followed by feedback using PATHS — the school's consistent feedback model. No PATHS cycle is complete until the pupil has responded in green pen.

	Element	What it means	Example in this year
P	**Positive Comment**	A specific, evidence-referenced strength — never generic praise.	*"Your introduction to your talk on Marcus Rashford was original and engaged the group, and you held eye contact throughout."*
A	**Attainment Mark / Grade**	Where the performance sits against the ESB descriptors — Securing (Pass/Good Pass) or Exceeding (Merit Plus/Distinction).	*"This is Securing level (Good Pass). To reach Exceeding you need intelligent pause and audio-visual material that is well discussed."*
T	**Target to Improve**	One single, specific, prioritised oracy target — never a list.	*"Your next step is to pause deliberately after each key point so the audience can absorb your ideas."*
H	**How-to Instructions**	Concrete, replicable steps telling the pupil exactly how to act on the target.	*"(1) Mark three pause points in your notes; (2) count two beats silently at each; (3) make eye contact with a different group member."*
S	**Student Response**	Pupils act on the target, re-rehearsing the targeted section and recording in green pen what they will do differently.	*Pupil re-rehearses the opening of the Biographical Talk applying the new pause technique, and records the improvement ahead of the Unit 6 mock.*