

## **What is literacy?**

In defining literacy for the 21st century it was agreed that the definition provided should take account of new technologies in order to 'future proof' it. Within *Curriculum for Excellence*, therefore, literacy is defined as:

- *the set of skills which allows an individual to engage fully in society and in learning, through the different forms of language, and the range of texts, which society values and finds useful.*

In simple terms this means that all of our students should be able to:

- communicate effectively face-to-face - **talk/listen**
- communicate effectively in **writing**
- **Read**, but not only for information: they also need to be able to work out if and when people are aiming to persuade or influence them.

## **Literacy across learning – what is this?**

In *Curriculum for Excellence* **Literacy across learning** is one of the three areas which are now seen as the responsibility of all staff.

The others are:

- Health and wellbeing across learning
- Numeracy across learning

Literacy experiences and outcomes should be used in **all subjects** to help promote the development of **Talk/Listening, Reading** and **Writing**.

## **Literacy across learning – the principles**

Literacy is important in all areas of learning, as it unlocks access to the wider curriculum. Being literate increases opportunities for our students in all aspects of life and work. It also contributes strongly to the development of all four capacities of CfE, *making our students: Independent Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors*.

Having skills and confidence in literacy is essential for progress in all areas of the curriculum. Because of this, all teachers have a responsibility for literacy development. Young people should be supported and encouraged to explain their thinking, debate their ideas and read and write at a level which will help them to develop their language skills further.

## **Literacy in Broughton High School**

The school has a literacy coordinator in place to oversee what is happening across faculties. For 2012-2013, the coordinator is Mrs Lisa Evans, a teacher in the English department.

There is also a Literacy School Improvement Group and their role is to help the coordinator and to work within their faculties promoting literacy development.

There are many literacy based initiatives happening in school at the moment: pupil reading groups, work on a whole school correction code, a "Book in a Box" project, Accelerated Reader, Literacy HW for S1-S2, training for staff in "reading strategies", a targeted reading intervention programme and many more!