**PDST**
Professional Development | An tSeirbhís um Fhorbairt
Service for Teachers | Ghairmiúil do Mhúinteoirí

**Partner and small group work**

Partner and small group work provides an authentic learning context in which students can develop both speaking and listening skills. Pupils are allowed to become actively involved in the construction of their own knowledge. This can often lead to a greater understanding and internalisation of material. Pupils are allowed to use language to interact and plan, take on a particular role such as the manager, the recorder etc., develop a group activity and monitor and reflect on the task/learning. Small group learning allows the teacher to effectively scaffold students learning by providing guidance towards ensuring that the groups run smoothly, that allocated roles are working and that learning is being fostered.

| Infants | 1st/2nd | 3rd – 6th |
|---|---|---|
| ● Yes/no <br> ● Ok <br> ● Right <br> ● I think <br> ● It's my/your turn <br><br> ● Who's next? <br> ● Can you help me? <br> ● Would you like me to help? <br> ● What if…? | ● I see <br> ● I get it now <br> ● You're right <br> ● That's great <br> ● Let's try that <br> ● Maybe if we….then….. <br><br> ● Whose turn is it? <br> ● Who would like to go next? <br> ● Why does….? <br> ● How do you…? <br> ● How about…? <br> ● Why/how did that happen? <br> ● Why/what do you think…? <br> ● Can we try this? <br> ● What did you say again? <br> ● Could you say that again please? <br> ● Is everyone happy with…? <br> ● What do we think about…? <br> ● What if we….? | ● I think we should try… <br> ● This might work better if we….. <br> ● That's a great idea <br> ● We should experiment with <br> ● It might be better if….. <br> ● That could work if/when…. <br> ● The result of that would be… <br><br> ● Would you mind if I…? <br> ● What caused this? <br> ● What might this be the result of? <br> ● Why do you think so? <br> ● Can you think of another reason? <br> ● Can you explain how…? <br> ● Would you mind repeating that for me? <br> ● Can I just clarify….? <br> ● Just to be clear…? <br> ● Is what you meant that….? <br> ● So just to be clear….what we are saying is… <br> ● What might the outcome be if…? |