

A stylized graphic of a hand in shades of blue and teal, with two dark blue oval shapes representing fingers or a thumb and index finger. The hand is positioned as if holding or presenting the text below.

# ARTICULATE

TEACHING THE ART  
OF NATURAL COMMUNICATION

# NSSW IN COLLABORATION WITH ARTICULACY

**Next Steps South West (NSSW) is the regional provider of the Uni Connect programme, funded by the Office for Students. We are a partnership of fourteen universities and colleges in Cornwall, Devon and Somerset.**

NSSW offers support to target students in years 9 to 13 who are currently underrepresented in higher education (HE). Working with target schools, we run events and activities to raise aspirations and awareness of HE opportunities, including apprenticeships.

We are proud to present a five-day communication skills programme in collaboration with Articulacy. Our shared mission is simple: inspire young people to become confident and articulate individuals, in their school lives and beyond.

Through an energetic mix of challenging games and practical sessions, we increase confidence and improve soft skills, helping learners overcome barriers of low self-esteem and anxiety, and grow their academic potential.

## HOW IT WORKS

Our five-day Articulate programme is dedicated to year 9 students. Working with target schools we identify thirteen pupils via a three-phase targeting process, conducted by the school and the NSSW evaluation team. Students learn essential skills of speaking, listening, discussions and debate. The programme culminates in an accredited English Speaking Board qualification.

Our core workshops are designed to nurture effective communication skills, build confidence, encourage debate and raise aspirations whilst introducing higher education. Students enjoy a massive sense of achievement, and develop presentation and speaking skills in an interactive and fun environment whilst supporting KS3 targets.

Prioritising positive reinforcement, we encourage active engagement in learning. The presence of our HE student ambassadors also provides additional help and support from university role models. The motivational teacher-student and peer relationships that ensue revolutionise the classroom, creating a supportive space for pupils to realise their full potential.

## COST

Articulate is offered free to schools. For 2020-21 we will not be requiring a contribution from schools for the ESB exam component. Next Steps South West can provide 50% of the funding, and thanks to the Christabel Burniston Fund the other 50% can also be covered.

## THE PROGRAMME

The Articulate programme is spread across a Monday to Friday school week, as detailed in the example timetable below.

<b>MONDAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students choose a poem and topic title for presentation</li><li>• Begin memorising poems</li><li>• Presentation development, requiring access to computers</li></ul>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students arrive with a book of their choice (one that they have read and enjoyed), then select a passage that includes dialogue</li><li>• Spend time working through poems, presentations and reading</li></ul>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consolidation of the first two days, with students working in small groups or pairs to rehearse their presentations, poems and passages</li><li>• Tutor works out who needs support with any of the exam requirements</li></ul>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 rooms are required for the morning (students then switch halfway through)</li><li>• Room 1 - mock exams with half of the group and tutor</li><li>• Room 2 - practise room with student ambassadors along with discussion about life at university</li><li>• Afternoon - fun-filled activities increase confidence, ahead of the exam on Friday</li></ul>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exams will be taken in 2 groups</li><li>• Group 1 - with examiner - lessons 1 and 2</li><li>• Group 2 - with examiner - lessons 3 and 4</li><li>• When not with examiner, students will go back to normal lessons</li><li>• All students return to normal lessons in the afternoon - lesson 5</li></ul>

\*To discuss alternative five-day programmes, please contact the NSSW team. For more information, email [julia@articulay.co.uk](mailto:julia@articulay.co.uk) or call **07970983719**.

### Bespoke choices may include:

- One week outside of term time (e.g. during the summer holiday or half term)

## SHORT-TERM ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

To fully support your students' progress, we highly recommend the full Articulate five-day programme; however, upon special request we may run the following 1-3 day workshops:

- Interview Skills
- Debating Skills
- Speaking and Listening
- Employability (CV writing, job applications and interview skills suitable to KS5)

\*Please note these activities do not result in an external exam or qualification.

## GET IN TOUCH

Explore a variety of in-school packages at [articulacy.co.uk](https://articulacy.co.uk) or contact the team at Next Steps South West to discuss your options.

 **01752 587505**

 **[nextstepssw@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:nextstepssw@plymouth.ac.uk)**

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