



BEING A PERFECT PARTNER

- Sit shoulder to shoulder close together so that it's easier to share things and to hear your partner speak.
- Put your work or book in the middle of the table so that both partners can share and see.
- Take turns to be the teacher and pupil.
- Use eye contact and look at your partner when they are talking.
- Praise your partner when they are doing well.
- Help your partner when they are stuck.
- Encourage your partner to get on with the work.
- Make sure you are both working really hard!

How to Ensure Successful Partner Work

- Choose partners carefully – either by gender, similar attainment or mixed attainment.
- Change partners from time to time so that the children don't become too reliant on working with the same person every week or lesson – this will also allow for the children to equally share different ideas and skills.
- Share and discuss the 'Perfect Partner' rubric with the children.
- Demonstrate 'Perfect Partner' positions with the children so they are clear about your expectations. Model how to take on the role of the teacher and the pupil.
- Remind the children every lesson that you are looking for 'Perfect Partner' work. When you see it, praise it, move up pegs, put names on Fred Chart etc.
- Help the children to establish who is going to talk/read first each lesson – who will be the teacher first? Put your hand up.
- Display the 'Perfect Partner' work poster in the classroom and revisit it often.
- If a child's partner is absent, either pair them up with an adult or allow the child to work alone if they are able to. Alternatively a child may be able to join another pair.