



Children involved in public speaking show improvement in school performance and confidence

A survey conducted in March has revealed that children involved in public speaking have improved their self-confidence and academic performance as a direct result, according to their parents.

The survey, conducted by the Public Speaking for Kids website, received over 306 responses. 73 per cent of parents noticed an improvement in their child's self confidence, 18 per cent were indifferent and 9 per cent noticed no change.

66 per cent of respondents noticed an improvement in school results, 17 per cent were indifferent and a further 17 per cent noticed no change.

Public Speaking for Kids is a new initiative set up by Andries Smit, based in London and the founder of several small businesses over the past fifteen years. Smit has already set up a similar site in South Africa which acquired vast success. He believes the wider English speaking world needs to balance out the changing terrain of daily communication (i.e. social media and instant messaging) which could hamper children's intellectual potential and ability to communicate effectively. He believes this will have a direct impact on such countries' economies in the future.

"We regularly hear from business and industry leaders that school leavers and graduates are lacking in communication skills. In the UK particularly, enough time is not given to children to hone in on and develop these skills. In an age where communication is changing rapidly, children can benefit hugely from gaining some extra support", say Smit.

"The higher the level of communication skills in countries, the better their economies will perform in the future", he continues.

Public Speaking for Kids has much planned in terms of products and services for the future, helping parents work alongside children to improve their public speaking. At the moment it is a hub of information and advice and is currently selling an exclusive e-book: The A-Z of Public Speaking for Kids.

Smit is ambitious about the role public speaking has to play in the future of children's education and believes his site's offering will grow accordingly. "At the moment, public speaking is an extracurricular activity but we eventually plan on speaking with the Government to see if it can become an integral part of the UK curriculum in some way".

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For more information contact Andries Smit on email: info@publicspeakingforkids.org

Visit: www.publicspeakingforkids.org

Public Speaking for Kids is a new website providing tips, advice and coaching for parents and teachers to help their children and pupils improve their public speaking and communication skills.