

**North
Yorks**

Talks

**Top Tips for
Communication
in Primary**



Top Tips for... Communication in Primary



1. Talk with every child every day. Research shows some children don't talk to an adult all session.

2. Be face to face with the child to make it easier to talk and listen. Get down on the floor in key stage 1, or kneel down when they are on a chair.



3. Make sure the child is listening to you before you start to talk. Call their name or use a gesture to catch attention before you ask something.

4. Keep using song. Older children still need time to play with sounds: songs and rhymes are brilliant for building sound awareness, try missing out words and make up funny alternatives.

5. Give the child time to answer. Count to 10 in your head before saying anything. Sometimes we all need thinking time.

6. Clear structures for lessons or activities make them easier to understand and participate in. Explain the sequence of events- make this visual if possible.



7. Comment more, question less. Comment more about what the child is doing, ask fewer questions. "You're drawing. That's a long line!"

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8. Remember to set a good example. If the child makes a mistake, show them the right way to say it. Don't copy or correct them. "I drew a red but." "Yes, a big red bus. I like the windows on your bus."

9. Be aware how long and complex your language is. If the young person does not understand, try repeating the same sentence, broken down into chunks. If this doesn't help consider changing structure and vocabulary to make it easier.



10. Highlight key vocabulary and make the links between how words are used in different contexts and lessons clear. For example "solution" has both a mathematical and scientific meaning, and "measure" can be applied to many different things.



11. Make language as visual as you can. Use sign, gesture, pictures, props, stick man sketches and symbols to support understanding.

12. If the young person struggles to recall a word give clues and prompts: "Tell me something about it." "What do you do with it?" "What does it look like?"



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We are supporting Hello, the 2011 national year of communication

www.hello.org.uk

Access and Inclusion

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Dokument ten jest na życzenie udostępniany także w innych wersjach językowych, w dużym druku, w alfabecie Braille'a lub w formacie audio.

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