



Speech and Language Therapy

Top Tips for Social communication

Face to Face

Get down to your child's level by sitting or lying down, or bring them up to your level. This will help you gain eye-contact and see what they are interested in.



Get Your Child's Attention
Say your child's name to get their attention. Use a fun, animated voice. Use songs to encourage your child to interact with you.

Help your Child to Listen
Let your child have extra time to understand and respond to you. Say one thing at a time using short, simple phrases e.g. 'shoes on.... outside now' rather than 'we're going out now so put your shoes on'



Copy Your Child
Copy your child's play, actions, sounds and words. This shows you're interested and will encourage them to notice and take turns with you.



Repeat Fun Routines
It's good to say and do the same thing over again. This will help your child learn new words and work out what's going to happen next. Try saying 'ready steady go... bubbles!!' every time you blow some bubbles. Leave gaps so your child can take a turn

Use Visuals
Help your child to understand what you mean by showing them with pictures, gestures and objects as well as using spoken words

Offer Choices
In your everyday routines and activities offer your child a choice of two things eg "banana or apple?" 'car or blocks?' even if you know what they want. Remember to show the object as you Say the words