



Communication and Language

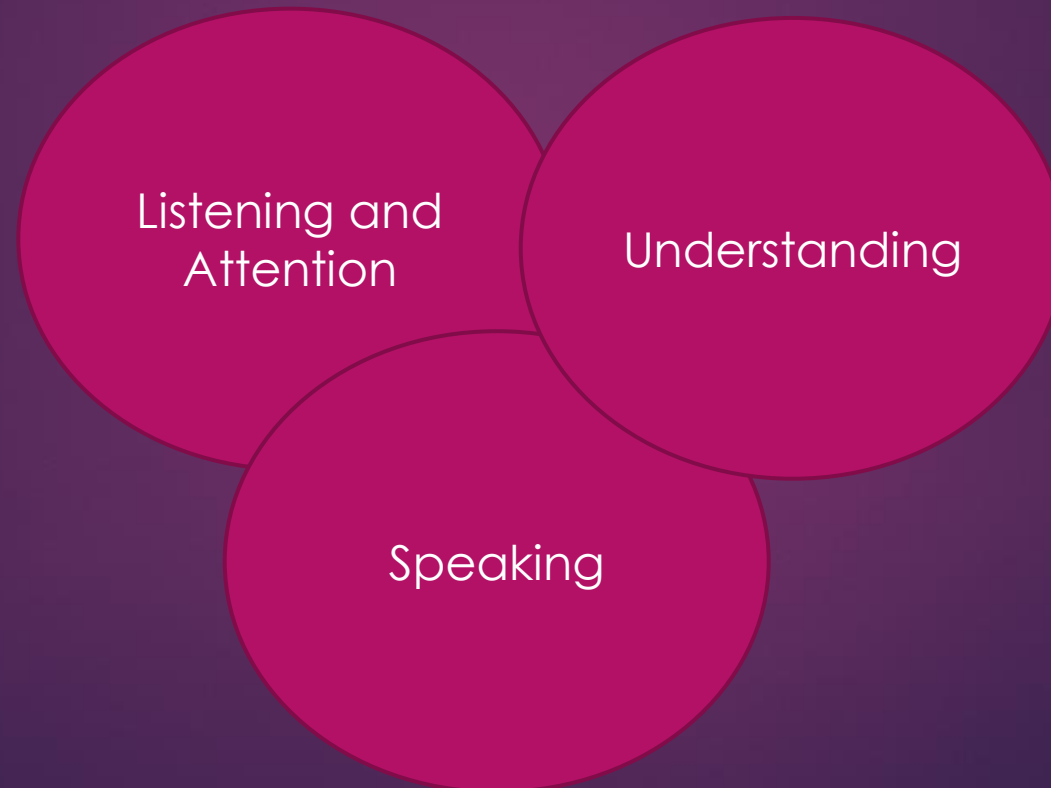
Communication is key

- Communication is fundamental to children's development; children need to be able to understand and be understood.
- Communication is the foundation of relationships and is essential for learning, play and social interaction.
- Communicating with babies is the foundation of attachment. This attachment underpins learning and development – it helps children thrive.
- Language is how we get to know each other and build relationships.
- As parents we talk and listen to our child, which helps them develop and learn as well as forging close connections.
- Language is the vehicle for learning. It is the means by which teachers teach and children learn. Imagine trying to learn and understand new information without the ability to listen, understand and talk...
- Children with speech and language needs can have difficulties with reading, writing and spelling but there are lots of things we can do to support your child.

What is Communication and Language in the Early Years?

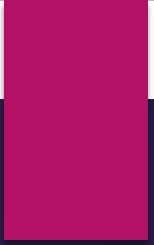
In the Early Years framework, Communication and Language development involves giving children opportunities to speak and listen in a range of situations and to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves.

The three aspects of Communication and Language in the Early Years Foundation Stage



What we do...

- Read books every day and talk with children about stories, characters and illustrations — books with rhythm and rhyme are particularly effective with young children.
- Encourage children to re-tell stories, whole-class and using puppets.
- Show and tell - when children can bring in toys or other objects from home and talk about them.
- Circle time which offers children a good opportunity to practise their speaking and listening skills.
- Sing songs, nursery rhymes and lullabies.
- Play speaking and listening games such as describing and guessing games.
- Role-play.
- Use technology such as microphones, walkie talkies and video recorders.
- Offer real life experiences both inside and outside.
- Model speaking and listening skills, e.g. using eye contact.
- Encourage partner talk and MTTT.
- Introduce new language.
- Create a rich language environment.
- Encourage speaking parts in assemblies and performances.

- 
- So many of the other Early Learning Goals cannot be met if the Speaking goal hasn't been met. Your child's ability to speak informs so much of our assessment, e.g. talking about the world, naming and describing shapes, forming relationships.
 - We are lucky enough to share a Speech and Language Therapist within the Trust. We can quickly identify needs and access help and support. She will be holding a meeting, in the coming weeks, for parents whose children have been identified as requiring Speech and Language support.
 - Know your child's targets and work on them at home.
 - Model correct pronunciation/sentence structure/prepositions, etc.

Have fun with words!

If I could ban a word, it would be...

~~sad~~

Children love a big word!

“Oh, Miss Barnard will be **furious** with you!”

Don't settle for 'big', be **GIGANTIC!**

Talk about your days out.

- Recall - What did we do/see?
- Explain - What was the best thing that happened?
Why?
- * Recount - What happened first, next, last?