

Communication and Language

Communication and language skills are continually developed throughout the Foundation stage, in both a formal and non-formal context. Children are constantly given the opportunity to speak and to be listened to, to develop their confidence in expressing themselves.

Communication and Language is one of the three prime areas of learning within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and is broken down into three aspects:

Listening and Attention

All children are introduced to rhythmic patterns in a range of situations.

They listen to stories and songs and begin to anticipate the next lines, with words and actions.

They are encouraged to listen and talk to others, engaging in simple conversations, responding appropriately while engaged in another activity.



Understanding

All children are given the opportunity to follow instructions, using language and basic signing depending on age and ability.

They are encouraged to ask questions, 'how' and 'why' and talk about their own experiences.



Speaking

The children are encouraged to express their wishes and needs verbally. Practitioners will use single words or simple sentences to encourage children to speak.

Children are encouraged to listen to others before responding back. They develop their own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas and events.