

SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPY CLASSROOM STRATEGIES KEY STRATEGIES 2+

Supporting speech and language difficulties in the classroom

- Always sit the child at the front of the class
- Keep background noise to a minimum to help the child focus and listen
- Use clear simple language – one key instruction at a time
- Use visuals whenever possible to support what you are saying – i.e. objects, pictures, photos, demonstrations
- Use a multi-sensory approach to teaching new vocabulary and concepts
- Give information in chunks, with time in between for the child to process what has been said
- For more complex tasks, use lists and pictures to break it down into manageable steps
- Highlight important information in written texts to help the child pull out key facts and answer questions more successfully
- Be honest with them about their speech. If you have not understood, encourage them to re-try the word or write it down
- Be aware that the child will need support in group work, in terms of forming a group and planning what they need to do. Try to include more supportive students
- Talk to your speech therapist about setting up a Friends Group to help develop successful social interactions with others

Updated by Rona Gaffney 2015

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