

Good practice for communication: 1 - 3 years

(to be used in conjunction with the EYFS)

<p>Environment</p> <p>Limit distractions and reduce background noise (TV, radio etc).</p> <p>Provide a variety of opportunities to meet individual needs.</p> <p>Provide stage-appropriate toys and equipment.</p> <p>Ensure child has a key person.</p> <p>Provide loving physical contact frequently on a daily basis.</p> <p>Provide familiar faces and routines.</p> <p>Provide verbal and visual stimulation whilst being aware that over stimulation is stressful.</p>	<p>Interaction</p> <p>Give opportunities for eye-to-eye contact.</p> <p>Give choices.</p> <p>Be close and get on a child's level.</p> <p>Initiate conversations with coos and babbles/words or phrases to imitate the child.</p> <p>Be emotionally available, the carers expression of emotions demonstrates availability and comfort with the child.</p> <p>Share the child's interest.</p> <p>Respond positively.</p> <p>Use touch to comfort the child when distressed.</p> <p>Use touch gently and appropriately.</p> <p>Model turn-taking.</p> <p>Value and involve parents.</p> <p>Ensure child has a key person.</p>
<p>Listening</p> <p>Ensure child is in the best position to listen.</p> <p>Limit distractions.</p> <p>Share books together.</p> <p>Sing – repetition, rhyme, rhythm and beat.</p> <p>Give choices.</p> <p>Ensure there is something interesting to listen to.</p> <p>Demonstrate you are listening by being close, using positive touch etc.</p>	<p>Understanding</p> <p>Emphasise key words.</p> <p>Ensure child is familiar with vocabulary.</p> <p>Pre-cue vocabulary with objects and pictures.</p> <p>Ensure child is following a normal developmental pattern.</p> <p>Keep sentences short and at the child's level.</p>
<p>Stimulating Games</p> <p>Role-model playing.</p> <p>Introduce early nursery rhymes.</p>	<p>Expression</p> <p>Use a lively intonation pattern.</p> <p>Acknowledge all the child's attempts, e.g. smile, babble, coo etc, and respond positively and appropriately.</p>