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Good Listening

Modelling speaking and listening is crucial to children developing these skills themselves

Practitioners

Stop

Observe

Listen

Model

Stop and Observe

Listening to children talk without frequent interruptions provides an opportunity for children to develop relevant language and enables practitioners to understand children's current language and communication skills

Listen

Model good listening skills by making eye contact with the speaker, demonstrate that you are listening through your body language, facial expressions and comments.

Model

Model language by repeating and/or rephrasing what you have heard. Ask relevant questions, if appropriate. Adapt your responses to level of the child and give ample time for them to extend their spoken communication. Help children to enlarge their vocabulary through the structuring of sentences appropriate to the child's language skills

Children need to be reminded of good listening skills

Ears – Good listening – remember to listen to the person who is speaking

Eyes – Good looking – remember to look at the person who is talking

Sitting – Good sitting – remember to focus attention on what is being said.

Use a cuddly toy and some laminated pictures of **ears**, **eyes** and **sitting** as prompts to remind the children of what they need to remember.



Every Child a Talker in Richmond Borough from 2010
Education and Health working together to support speech,
language and communication in the Early Years
Rated outstanding by National Strategies in 2011.