

Getting started

I CAN's
Talking
Point

Speech, language and communication (SLC) play a vital role in our lives. Being able to talk to and understand other people, makes it possible to do things like:



Communicate
with our families



Buy things at
the shops



Watch
television



Build
relationships



Socialise



Learn

Fortunately, most children do learn to communicate.
Children start to develop communication skills from birth.

**They rely on these developing speech, language
and communication to be able to learn at
school and play with their friends.**

They need these skills to reach their full potential.

Children need to:

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- ✓ Learn to understand words, sentences and conversation
- ✓ Learn how to talk using words and sentences. This is often called 'expressive language'
- ✓ Say speech sounds correctly so they can be understood by others.
- ✓ Know how to use their language socially. For example, listening as well as talking, or talking to a teacher differently than to a friend. This is often called 'pragmatic language'

Children develop SLC skills at different rates. Some develop quickly, while others may take longer.

It's important to remember that children begin to understand words before they can say them.

**Can't find the information you need here?
Contact the Enquiry service**

020 7843 2544 9.30am-4.30pm (Mon-Wed)

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