



A course for those working with children aged 3-5 years. It provides information and strategies to develop the communication skills of all young children but especially those with speech, language and communication needs. The course is designed to run over 10 weeks for 2hrs. Learners have the choice to complete an eportfolio to extend their learning at a L2 or L3 accreditation level.

1. WHAT IS COMMUNICATION?

- Identify the process involved in communication
- Demonstrate the wide range of communication difficulties

2. COMMUNICATION FRIENDLY SETTINGS, ADULT CHILD- INTERACTION AND WORKING WITH FAMILIES

- Consider what a Communication Friendly Setting is and how to achieve it.
- Understand the effect of adult-child interaction on the development of communication skills.
- Reflect on how to engage families to support their child's communication skills.

3. PLAY AND SOCIAL COMMUNICATION

- Explore the link between play and language development.
- Know how to develop play to support language and communication.
- Identify skills required for successful social communication and share ideas as to how to promote these.

4. LISTENING, LOOKING AND UNDERSTANDING SPOKEN LANGUAGE

- Understand the development of listening and attention and how to support this.
- Explore the importance of non-verbal communication behaviours.
- Reflect on the use of visual information to help children learn and understand.

5. PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF VOCABULARY

- Explore how children learn words and the typical pattern of vocabulary development.
- Discuss strategies to help children develop a rich and varied vocabulary.

6. THE BLANK LANGUAGE SCHEME (OR LANGUAGE FOR THINKING)

- Discuss supporting verbal reasoning skills, including why and how questions, inferencing, sequencing, predicting.
- Practise modifying the adult's language accordingly.

7. MODIFYING ADULTS' SPEECH TO HELP A CHILD UNDERSTAND LANGUAGE

- Practise modifying the adult's language through an understanding of information carrying words.
- Consider how to use information carrying words to develop all aspects of communication.

8. ENCOURAGING EXPRESSIVE LANGUAGE AND NARRATIVE SKILLS

- Develop strategies to encourage the use of sentences and expressive language.
- Discuss how to support children learning additional languages.
- Share ideas to develop narrative skills.

9. SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH UNCLEAR SPEECH AND DEVELOPING PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS

- Know the development of speech sounds.
- Discuss strategies to support children with unclear speech.
- Consider the link between speech, reading and writing.
- Review phonological awareness and the four main components.

10. MANAGEMENT OF STAMMERING AND OTHER ISSUES RAISED DURING THE COURSE

- Explore the appropriate management of children who stammer.
- Revise any issues from the course as requested by the course participants.
- Present evidence of applying knowledge gained across the course during everyday activities.