

Social Communication Skills

Children's Speech and Language Therapy
Acute and Community AHPs

Introduction

This leaflet is produced for parents who may have concerns about their child's social communication skill development. We hope you find this information useful and if you require further information, please telephone us on 01902 444363.

What are social communication skills?

Social communication skills are important in getting our messages across to others. These are skills such as:

- Making eye contact or looking at the person who is talking or you are talking to
- Taking turns in games, activities and when talking with someone
- Knowing how to make friends and be a friend
- Knowing how to start, continue and repair conversations (for example, when you realise that you need to clarify what you have said)
- Knowing what to do when things go wrong in social situations
- Understanding other people's feelings by 'reading' their facial expression, tone of voice and anticipating what might make them happy, sad etc

These skills come naturally to many people but some children find it harder to learn these skills and to know when or how to use them.

Strategies to help develop social communication skills

- Model good social communication
- Make specific rules for good communication such as 'try not to interrupt', 'try to look at the person who is talking'
- Create opportunities for children to have focused conversations in groups or pairs. Get them to report back on what was said
- Ask children to support less confident children in the playground by setting up a buddy system. The buddy can look out for a particular child and ensure they are included in playground games

The prevention of infection is a major priority in all healthcare and everyone has a part to play.

- Please decontaminate your hands frequently for 20 seconds using soap and water or alcohol gel if available
- If you have symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting, cough or other respiratory symptoms, a temperature or any loss of taste or smell please do not visit the hospital or any other care facility and seek advice from 111
- Keep the environment clean and tidy
- Let's work together to keep infections out of our hospitals and care homes.

Further information to support your child can be found in these leaflets:

Attention and listening skills

Receptive Language

Expressive Language

Speech Sounds

All are available from the website

How do I get in touch?

Speech and Language Therapy Service

The Gem Centre

Neachells Lane

Wednesfield

Wolverhampton

WV11 3PG

Telephone: 01902 444363

E-mail: rwh-tr.Speech-And-Language@nhs.net

Website: <https://www.royalwolverhampton.nhs.uk/services/service-directory-a-z/speech-and-language-therapy/>

English

If you need information in another way like easy read or a different language please let us know.

If you need an interpreter or assistance please let us know.

Lithuanian

Jeigu norėtumėte, kad informacija jums būtų pateikta kitu būdu, pavyzdžiui, supaprastinta forma ar kita kalba, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Jeigu jums reikia vertėjo ar kitos pagalbos, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Polish

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać te informacje w innej postaci, na przykład w wersji łatwej do czytania lub w innym języku, prosimy powiedzieć nam o tym.

Prosimy poinformować nas również, jeżeli potrzebowaliby Państwo usługi tłumaczenia ustnego lub innej pomocy.

Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਪੜ੍ਹਨ ਵਿਚ ਆਸਾਨ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੂਜੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ, ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਜਾਂ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

Romanian

Dacă aveți nevoie de informații în alt format, ca de exemplu caractere ușor de citit sau altă limbă, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Dacă aveți nevoie de un interpret sau de asistență, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Traditional Chinese

如果您需要以其他方式了解信息，如易读或其他语种，请告诉我们。

如果您需要口译人员或帮助，请告诉我们。