

NHS Trust

Speech and Language Therapy Department

HOW CAN WE HELP IN SCHOOL? KS1 & KS2

Strategies to Support Understanding of Language

- Break lengthy instructions down into chunks
- Give instructions in the order they are to be completed
- Allow the pupil time to process the information given
- Check the pupil understands each stage of the task by asking them to tell you what they have to do. Repeat key points if required
- Use visual clues to support understanding
- Encourage the pupil to signal when they have not understood using a help card or other agreed system. Support them to identify the breakdown e.g. 'did you understand all of the words that I used?', 'could you hear me clearly?' Role play the use of the help card before using in the classroom
- Encourage the pupil to request more information when instructions are given by asking for clarification 'Do you mean....?' or 'Do you want me to do that now?' or 'Can you tell me again please?'
- Use a checklist to encourage the pupil to follow frequently given instructions e.g. write the date, learning objective, etc.
- Reduce noise and distraction levels where possible, especially when verbal instructions or homework is given out
- Pre-teach sequencing structures such as before/after, first, next, last
- Provide written handouts to support verbal instructions and language content used in the classrooms

If you require any further support/advice please contact via the following email

Walsall.slt@nhs.net

In the subject line please state **FAO Virtual School SLCN Support** to ensure your message is actioned by the relevant team