

HOW CAN WE HELP?



Early Turn taking Skills

Some everyday ideas about how to help children develop their turn taking skills

Turn talking activities help children to engage with others and encourage sharing. Some children find it difficult to take turns. This may be when playing games or when having a conversation.

When children are learning to take turns the activity should be motivating to them. The following activities can be used to develop turn taking.

- blowing bubbles
- pop-up toys
- rolling a ball to other adults/children
- pushing a car to other adults/children
- posting boxes/shape sorters
- building a tower
- playing musical instruments (e.g. taking a turn to bang a drum and passing it on)
- feely bags
- inset puzzles
- simple board games
- pass the parcel

1. To begin with you may need to prompt the child to take turns, for example, by saying “my turn” and helping them to pass the toy/item to you.
2. As they become used to taking turns you will be able to give them less spoken prompts. Eventually they may be able to take turns without you saying anything.
3. Make sure you give them lots of time to respond.
4. When they are able to take turns with an adult you can involve another child in the activity. Use the other child’s name to help them take turns, (e.g. “Jack’s turn now.”)
5. Use the phrase/symbol “good waiting” or “good sharing” if they find it difficult to take turns.

6. You can also use a “stop” hand gesture to remind them to wait for their turn.

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

Walsall.slt@nhs.net

In the subject line please state **FAO the Virtual School Speech and Language Therapy Support team** to ensure your message is actioned by the relevant team.