

# HOW CAN WE HELP AT HOME? KS1 & KS2



## Supporting Children's Understanding of Language

Some children have difficulty understanding spoken words, phrases or sentences. The three terms 'understanding' 'comprehension' and 'receptive language' are often used interchangeably.

### Advice and Strategies to try:

- Break lengthy instructions into chunks
- Give instructions in the order they are to be completed
- Allow the child time to process information given
- Check the child understands each stage of the task that they are required to complete by asking them to tell you what they have to do.
- Repeat instructions when needed and reinforce with visual clues when required
- Encourage the child to signal when they have not understood using a help card or other agreed system (carers to liaise with school teaching staff). This can include options to encourage the child to identify the breakdown, (e.g. 'I didn't understand the word, can you tell me what it means?' / 'I didn't hear what was said, can you repeat it?'), etc. Role play the use of the help card
- Encourage the child to request more information when instructions are given to them by asking leading questions 'Do you mean.....?' or 'Do you want me to do that now?' or 'Can you tell me again please?'
- Reduce noise levels / distractions where possible when instructions are being given (e.g. turn the TV/ radio off or reduce volume)

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

[Walsall.slt@nhs.net](mailto: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