

Children in your class may also have difficulty with:-

- fluency (stammering)
- voice (e.g. sounds croaky or husky)
- social communication (e.g. eye contact, turn taking, making friends)

If you would like advice on any of the difficulties mentioned in this leaflet please contact the Speech and Language Therapy Department:-

Speech and Language Therapy Service,
Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital,
Stoney Stanton Rd,
Coventry CV1 4FH

The Speech and Language Therapist for your school is:-

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY



How can you help
children with **Speech and
Language Difficulties** in
your class?

LISTENING AND UNDERSTANDING

Encourage good listening, and give feedback, e.g. "good listening". Get child's full attention; Eye contact, say child's name.

Give the child time to respond

Avoid using ambiguous language, e.g. "pull your socks up"

Maintain eye-contact with a child whose speech you do not understand. Ask if he/she can say it another way.

Encourage child to use all means of communication, e.g. pictures, signs, symbols.

Make it clear when you are introducing a new topic, e.g. "now we are going to talk about"

Be aware of child's level of understanding, are you using language the child will understand?

Give time and then prompts to help a child find the right word, e.g. "what do you do with it?" "do you know what sound it starts with?"

If the child uses an immature form, model target sentences to encourage grammatical awareness, e.g. "yesterday I falled". Teacher: "oh, you fell over did you?"

Encourage the child to keep on target, e.g. "we are not talking about that now".

Slow down rate of speech

Break up long sentences into smaller phrases



If possible check that the child has understood the main points by talking "one to one" afterwards