Sybil Elgar School | Our Transdisciplinary Team Newsletter

WAYS TO PROMOTE INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATION SKILLS

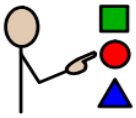
- Create situations where the young person needs to ask for things -hide things, put out of reach, move things to a different place to elicit a request.

- Create situations where the young person needs to ask for help – give materials, activities they need help with.

- Don't automatically do things. Provide opportunities for young people to do things in independently and decrease reliance on adults.

- Leave a gap in usual communication routines – wait for someone to say something, do something.
- Use pauses to enable responses to environmental cues (Rather than keep giving directions).
- Provide time to use communication and answer questions/ give information.

- Provide motivating activities- encourage asking for a turn.
- Provide a range of activities / materials to make choices from.
- Talk about favourite topics- encourage sharing information.



- Use questions – 'What would you like for lunch today?' Wait for an answer. Give role models as necessary.

- Use a prompt continuum (reducing verbal / gestural prompts) to encourage responding to environment cues for example stand by the door and leave closed.

- Use problem solving techniques – What's it time for? What do you need? Where should you be?