



## Parent Information Sheet

### Supporting Verbal & Expressive Language Difficulties

1. **Liaise** - Liaise with your child's Speech & Language Therapist & your child's Class Teacher / SENCO.
2. **Model** - Say and model phrases, types of words and word endings the child needs to develop e.g. "under the bridge.... The car is going.... it's fast...".
3. **Pre-teaching** - New vocabulary may have to be introduced and worked on prior to lessons in school (the class teacher can give you information).
4. **Practice** - Provide opportunities to practice new language and repeat it in context.
5. **Expand** - Expand your child's utterances, e.g. if he/she says "Daddy go in car", you could say, "mm, yes. "Daddy's going in his car".
6. **Talk** - Talk with your child, modelling what to say. Ask less questions and just talk - like thinking out loud. He/she can hear and hopefully remember useful language.
7. **Time** - Allow extra time for your child to organise their thoughts into words - don't 'jump in' too fast. Ask other people to do the same.
8. **Formulate** - Re-say and formulate muddled sentences for your child. e.g. if he/she says, "A two boys are going to spade and digging out the sand", you could repeat back as, "Yes, two boys are digging in the sand".
9. **Role Models** - Listening to good language role models will help your child develop their language from both adults and peers.
10. **Praise** - Don't forget to praise your child for their efforts and NEVER make negative comments about their speech.