**If you are pregnant, remember that your baby can already hear your voice**

**Talk and sing to your child**

**It helps them to recognise you and builds a bond between you and your baby**

**Voices and music that they know will comfort them when they are born**



**Cuddle your baby close so they can see your face and talk to them as soon as they are born**



**Take your child dummy out when they are talking Dummies get in the way and stop them talking clearly**



**Take your child dummy out when they are talking. Dummies get in the way and stop them talking clearly.**



**Gain your child’s attention when talking with them**

**Call their name and wait until they look at you**



**Play “talking tennis” with your child**

**Say something to them and then give them time to respond**

**It helps to count to 10 in your head before speaking again**

**This is how they learn to take turns**



**Encourage your child to listen to different sounds (aeroplane, bus, birds, etc.) This will help them to become a good listener**



**Use the language you know best when talking to your child This will help their brain to grow and they will learn English quickly if they already know the words in your home language**



**Read every day**

**Just 5 minutes a day can make a real difference to your child’s vocabulary**



**Talk with your child about things as they happen such as unpacking shopping, having a bath, watching television**

**It helps them to link words and actions**



**Talk with your child about things that interest them**

**If they look or point at something, talk about that**

**This shows them you understand what they are trying to tell you**



**Give your child plenty of time to think and speak**

**Try saying a bit less yourself: ‘less is more’!**



**Help your child to use more words by adding to what they say**

**If your child says “ball”, reply “yes, it’s a big ball” or “throw me the ball”**



**Have a special time with your child each day**

**Put your phone down, turn off the television and have a chat**

**Your child can hear you better when it is quiet**

**This will help them to become a good listener and a good talker**



**Have fun with nursery rhymes and songs, especially those with actions** **It will help your child with early phonics**



**Talk with your child as much as possible.**

**Talk when you are playing or doing everyday things such as shopping, having a bath, nappy changing or eating**

**It doesn’t matter if you say the same things over and over again**

**This is how they learn**

