

TDA31-2.1 Explain the skills needed to communicate with children and young people.

There are a number of skills we as professional use every day sometimes without thinking.

Find opportunities to speak- Make sure that children are given an opportunity to talk as some children have very little chance to express themselves which can lead to a lack in a child's confidence.

Make eye contact and actively listen- Make sure the child you are talking to knows you are giving them your attention because if you say you're listening but are looking away doing something else this gives the child the impression you're not interested.

Use body language and facial expressions and be approachable- When talking to children you must show them you are interested this could be shown by getting down to their level to make you look more approachable.

React and comment on what they are saying- When talking to children you may need to repeat back to check your understanding of what the child has said.

Be interested, responding and questioning to maintain conversation- It is important to role model to children how to communicate and show interest and know how to respond to questions.

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