

TDA31-2.3 Explain the main differences between communicating with adults and communicating with children and young people.

There are many similarities between communicating between adults and children such as maintaining eye contact and interest, responding to what they are saying and treating them with courtesy and respect.

When communicating with children we need to remember they need to see you as a carer and that that your relationship with them will always be formal when in school. We will also need to be very clear and straight forward in what we say so that the children will understand.

Children also need us to communicate what is expected of them so they can learn to communicate well themselves. We also need to make sure that children understand what we mean by certain questions, if the child cannot answer the question make sure that the vocabulary and verbal expressions we have used are at the right level for the child.

It is also very important to be aware that physical contact with children should not be encouraged when communicating with them. It may be hard to avoid physical contact with young children as they often want to hug you or hold hands.

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