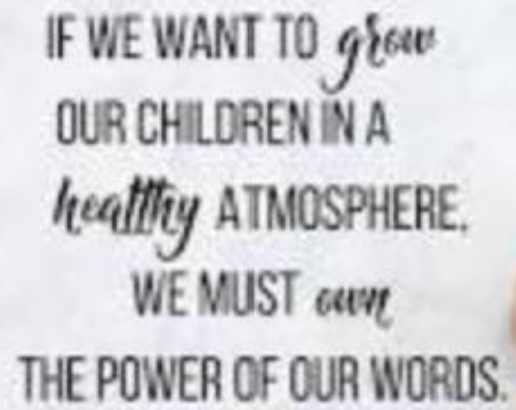


**Welcome  
Parents & Carers**

**Time to Talk  
With your Child**





IF WE WANT TO *grow*  
OUR CHILDREN IN A  
*healthy* ATMOSPHERE,  
WE MUST *own*  
THE POWER OF OUR WORDS.

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ALL BEHAVIOR  
*is a form of*  
COMMUNICATION

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# EDUCATION

is the most powerful weapon  
which you can use  
to change the world.

- Nelson Mandela -



*At Pear Tree Infant & Nursery School we work with parents as partners.*

Thank you for attending today.

We want to support you by helping you to understand how communicating with your child will support their journey of learning and progress in life.



**Every interaction you have with your child is a form of communication.**



**The way you communicate with your child not only teaches them how to communicate with others, it shapes their emotional development and how they build relationships later in life.**

## What are the types of communication?

Communication can take two forms: verbal and nonverbal.

**Verbal communication** is the way we communicate with words and includes:

- Pitch and tone of voice
- The words you say
- Dialect, or using words your child can best understand.

**Nonverbal communication** is both intentional and unintentional communication through body language. It includes things like:

- Facial expressions
- Eye contact
- Personal space
- Hand gestures
- Physical touch like a hug



**Today we want to give you some top tips to help you practice your verbal and nonverbal communication skills with your child**

**Active listening**

**Reflective listening**

**Speaking clearly**

**Explaining feelings**

**Having fun together**

**Leading by example**

How we listen to our children  
holds just as much value  
as the way we talk to them.  
-D. Simons-

# Active Listening

## ► Active listening

► Show that you are listening carefully to what they have to say by asking them questions like “**what?**” “**why?**” and “**how?**”. This also helps your child to improve their own communication skills by teaching them how to tell a story and what details to include.

Eyes on the  
Speaker



Listen



Think



Wait for the  
speaker to finish



## Reflective listening

A great way to show your child that you are paying attention and care about what they have to say is by **acting like a mirror**. Repeat back what they say to you using different words. For example, if your child says, "I'm not playing with him anymore," you could respond with, "You are not playing with your friend?". This leaves room for your child to express their emotions without judgment. You might be surprised at how much they have to say!





## Speaking clearly

Use language that is understandable for your child and appropriate to their age.

Be clear. Using **kind language** helps set a positive example for your child. Remember, the conversation should make your child feel respected and loved.

If you believe it, you can achieve it.

I love seeing you work together.

Challenges make you stronger.

## Explaining feelings

To help your child develop, it is important for them to learn **how to name their feelings**. When your child is expressing their feelings verbally, listen to what they have to say with care. Consider what life looks like through their eyes. If your little one is expressing their feelings in a nonverbal way – for example through a tantrum or laughing and having fun doing an activity they enjoy – help them put words to how they feel, such as **happy, sad, relaxed, hurt, scared, hungry, proud, sleepy, angry, helpless, irritated, embarrassed or joyful**.



## Having fun together

As your children grow, parenting can seem like a more serious task. That's why it is important **to have fun together**.

Find ways to relate to your child by saying something positive about something they care about, paying attention to their interests and joking together. Remember, laugh with your child but never at your child.



## Leading by example

Consider what example you are setting. Parents are children's introduction to the world. What your child sees you do is as important as what they hear you say.

Only make a promise to your child that you are sure you can keep. This helps to build and maintain trust between you and your children.

Children are great imitators. So give them something great to imitate.



LISTEN  
TO YOUR  
CHILD



HELP YOUR CHILD  
**SUCCEED**  
IN SCHOOL

