

#### 4. Know how to help

- Please talk to me about what helps
- Show me what to do and not just tell me.
- Give me work at the right level.
- Only talk for about 10 minutes at a time. Do shorter activities.
- Ask for my answers when I put my hand up.
- Write or draw my jobs on the board.
- Teach me new and harder words. Help me to remember them.
- Check I have understood by asking me about the first thing I have to do.
- Tell me when I have done well.
- Use an adult in the class to check that I have understood.

#### 5. Know where to ask for help

Speak to your SENCO  
and/or Learning Support Department  
if available

Other useful contacts:

[www.afasic.org.uk](http://www.afasic.org.uk)

[www.moorhouseschool.co.uk/research-training-institute](http://www.moorhouseschool.co.uk/research-training-institute)

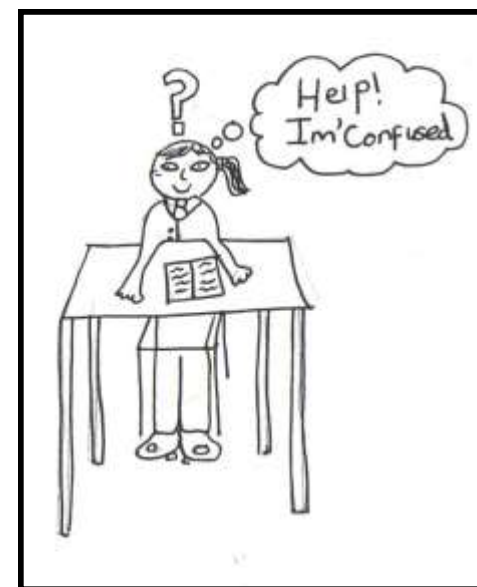
[www.ican.org.uk](http://www.ican.org.uk)



Leaflet created by secondary students  
with speech and language difficulties  
working with Afasic and updated 2022

**Speech and language  
difficulties and how  
teachers can help in  
the classroom**

**Tips from students**



**5 Ways Teachers Can Help...**

## 1. Understand speech & language difficulties

**Speech =** The sounds we use to make spoken words.

Students with speech difficulties may:

- Miss out sounds in words
- Use the wrong sounds in words
- Be more difficult to understand when speaking in sentences

**Language=** understanding and using words and sentences.

Students with language difficulties may:

- Not understand the meaning of words
- Struggle to learn new words
- Not understand sentences & instructions
- Struggle to find the words they need and/or put those words together in a sentence

A student with speech and/or language difficulties may:

- ♦ Find most aspects of literacy difficult
- ♦ Struggle to make friends.
- ♦ Be vulnerable to bullying
- ♦ Struggle to concentrate
- ♦ Present as a behaviour challenge
- ♦ Struggle with social skills such as eye contact, turn-taking in conversation, listening.
- ♦ Be quiet and/or timid

## 2. Know what makes learning hard

- When a teacher talks for too long
- When there is lots of noise in the classroom.
- When the teacher says words that are too hard to understand.
- When there is too much information to remember



- If I am asked to remember things quickly.
- If there are lots of jobs to do all at once.
- Learning, remembering and using new words.
- If I am asked to read out loud.
- Working with a learning partner.

## 3. Try to understand how I feel

I just stop listening and then I get into trouble  
Colin, year 7

I get really worried.  
Tyler, year 8  
I panic that I can't get through the tasks.  
Ryan, year 8

I'm not bothered me, what's the point in really trying?  
Lewis year 10



I just say that I understand even when I don't  
Emily, year 7