Spend time talking together... for just a few minutes, give your whole attention to your child.
Helpful Home Hints

Aim for an atmosphere of acceptance – that it is OK to make a mistake.

😊 Try to have a conversation free of other distractions like the TV.

😊 Encourage your child with open questions like “What was good about school today?” rather than “How was school?”

😊 Give time for your child to finish speaking before you enter the conversation.

😊 Thought moves faster than words, so be patient with young children if things seem mixed up. You can ask questions that help clarify meaning.

😊 Remember your body language…you listen with your face as well as your ears!

😊 After reading a book together it is a good time to have a chat about the story.

How to encourage good listening skills…

• Give your child opportunities to listen to you read.
• Play board games together where attention to turn taking is necessary.
• Make and hold eye contact.

Resources

• YOU…you are a valuable resource. Never forget you taught your child to speak in one or more languages!
• Be a model yourself and let your child hear you say words clearly.
• iPods, talking books and speech therapists, if recommended.