

## **Top Tips for working with EAL children in Early Years**

- **Use picture fans to help communication**
- **Use visual timetables**
- **Use plenty of visuals and props when telling stories**
- **Tell repetitive stories and play games that involve repetition of language**
- **Use mime and gesture to support language learning**
- **Make sure everyone can pronounce each other's names correctly**
- **Learn a couple of useful phrases in children's home languages**
- **Learn and teach number rhymes, nursery rhymes and songs in children's home languages**
- **Make a poster of greetings and phrases in all the languages within the setting and the community.**
- **Talk regularly with parents and use an interpreter when necessary.**
- **Invite parents to share customs and food from their own cultures.**
- **Advise parents to continue using their home language at home.**
- **Instead of correcting children when they attempt to speak English rephrase what they have said.**
- **Give EAL children plenty of listening time; children usually go through a 'silent' period before they are ready to speak.**
- **Ensure that your resources reflect the diversity of children within and beyond the setting.**
- **Give EAL children opportunities to talk in their home language where possible.**