

Generic Ideas

Commenting

- For greeting friends
- To indicate “more”
- To reject an idea e.g. “I don’t want to”
- To ask for help
- To describe toys, activities etc. what they can see, e.g. ‘I see a boat’
- To say how they feel

Requesting

- To ask to go to the toilet
- To choose a toy, activity etc.
- To ask for something in a shop
- To ask for something needed in an activity
- Ask for help e.g. to complete a puzzle
- To ask for an activity to stop

Top tips

- Use signs as much and as often as you can.
- Always speak as you sign
- Offer lots of encouragement
- Have fun with your signing!

Children and adults who have difficulty understanding and speaking often become frustrated or withdrawn. Young children may communicate this through behaviours such as screaming and kicking; older children and adults may shout or hurt themselves. By using Makaton, we are helping them to communicate in a more acceptable way.

What is Makaton?

Makaton is a sign language system to help people to communicate. It is designed to support spoken language and the signs and symbols are used with speech, in spoken word order.

Makaton uses Speech and gesture, facial expression, eye contact and body language.

Makaton should be used at a level appropriate to individuals – information should be broken into smaller segments and signed accordingly.



www.makaton.org.uk

Who can use Makaton?

ANYONE & EVERYONE!

Makaton should be used within every needs group:

- to enable The Foreland School to be a sociable signing community
- to enable more able pupils to have tools to communicate with their peers
- to give PMLD pupils additional prompts to support their understanding of what is happening (including use of Objects of reference to support those pupils who may not access Makaton)
- to support learning and understanding
- to provide an additional form of communication that can be used anywhere (e.g. swimming pool)
- to encourage inclusion across the school and in the wider community.

Curriculum Ideas

Story time

- To say what they see in a picture book e.g. “dog running”
- To request ‘more’ or ‘stop’
- To make a choice

Number time

- To say how many
- To name shapes

Music

- To join in with a familiar song with signs – nursery rhymes & pop songs!
- To request a song
- To comment on likes/dislikes

Art & Design

- To request colours/tools/materials

Cooking

- To request ingredients/ equipment
- To comment – “I smell.....”
- To comment on likes/dislikes

ICT & TV

- Mr Tumble & Something Special!

Who can help?

- **MAKATON tutors**

Regional Makaton tutors
Nikki Gray & Fran Raven
Kathryn Martin (SALT)

Local Makaton tutor – Pam Dannell
(FISS)

- **Department Makaton Reps**