## **Social Communication**



**Children's Speech & Language Service** 

Social Communication is the way we interact with another person. As well as words, we also use eye contact, body language, gesture, touch and facial expression to get our message across.

Sometimes children may have difficulties with some aspects of social communication.



- Social communication skills start to develop as soon as we are born.
- Studies suggest that a high percentage of communication is done through non verbal means.

Contact us: Phone: 01752 434844 www.livewellsouthwest.co.uk Be aware that many children and young people with social communication difficulties may...

- Find it hard to join in with you or with others
- Prefer to do things on their own or alongside you
- Have difficulty taking turns and listening
- Have difficulty making friends and using language in social ways
- Find it hard to respond to and understand communication from others.
- Find it hard to understand emotions, body language and gesture

## **More Information**



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## TOP TIPS

- Model good eye contact, listening and body language with your child. Give praise when they do these things well.
- Join your child when they are doing something that they enjoy, and follow their lead in the play.
- > Talk about what they are interested in.
- Play simple turn taking games
- Model and label emotions when they are happening.
- Keep language short and simple.
- ➤ Have Fun!

The exact cause of social communication difficulties is still being investigated.

Research into the causes suggests that a combination of factors, both genetic and environmental, may account for differences in development.

Social Communication Difficulties may be linked to language difficulties, Autism Spectrum Condition or Selective Mutism but may also occur on their own.

