

## Let's talk!

Darell Nursery's top tips for talking

When you are talking with your child, get down to their level and look at them

Take turns when talking with your child – listening is important too

Follow your child's lead – watching and listening to see what they are interested in

Talk about the pictures in your child's favourite books

Use 'here and now' talk about what is happening right here and right now, rather than talking about something that happened yesterday or last week

Have fun with songs and rhymes – especially those with actions

Say your child's name before you start talking to them

Give your child plenty of time to respond when you comment or ask a question

Talk to your child about what you are both doing and try to limit instructions and questions

Use short sentences when you are talking to your child and try to 'add a word', so if they say 'big ball', you could say 'big shiny ball'

If your child says something incorrectly, like 'tar', repeat the word back to them correctly, 'car', but don't ask them to repeat it back to you

Fluent language is linked to reading and writing, to building friendships and controlling emotions and hence to the healthy emotional and social development of your child, so let's talk!