



## ASK THE EXPERTS

**Q We have a newly arrived pupil in the nursery who speaks very little English. How can we best support her?**

There are several ways you can support your EAL new arrival:

- Meet with her family to gather information about the child's cultural and linguistic background so you can provide an experience that caters for the unique child.
- Explain to her family how important it is for their child to keep their first language and say that you'll be encouraging her to use it at your setting.
- Provide language rich activities with visual and concrete support.
- Have high expectations of verbal and non-verbal participation without pressure.
- Have resources that reflect the background and culture of your new arrival e.g. Books in dual languages and diverse role play areas.
- Encourage friendships and play with articulate English speakers.

Useful web links:

1. Learn how to greet child and family in their first language- <http://www.newburypark.redbridge.sch.uk/langofmonth/>
2. Use songs and rhymes from around the world - <http://www.mamalisa.com/?t=eh>
3. A resource book of activities to support children's language and communication <http://www.talkingpoint.org.uk/Parent/Directory/Cookbook.aspx>