

MAKATON AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

What is Makaton?



Makaton is a unique language programme that uses symbols, signs and speech to enable people to communicate. It supports the development of essential communication skills such as attention and listening, comprehension, memory, recall and organisation of language and expression.

Being able to communicate is one of the most important skills we need in life. Almost everything we do involves communication; everyday tasks such as learning at school, asking for food and drink, sorting out problems, making friends and having fun. These all rely on our ability to communicate with each other.

With Makaton, signs are used, with speech, in spoken word order. This helps provide extra clues about what someone is saying. Using signs can help people who have no speech or whose speech is unclear. Using symbols can help people who have limited speech and those who cannot, or prefer not to sign.

At Makaton Club we have been learning lots of signs; we mainly learn these by singing and signing a variety of songs and we are learning to tell stories with Makaton. We have made a prayer and we are encouraging our friends and teachers to use Makaton by producing a display and placing signs throughout the school. We even taught the whole school to sign along to a Christmas song. We can't wait to teach them more.

