

# Quality First Teaching



# ADHD – Quality First Teaching

## DESCRIPTION

Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a chronic condition that affects millions of children and often persists into adulthood. ADHD includes a combination of problems, such as difficulty sustaining attention, hyperactivity, and impulsive behaviour.

Children with ADHD also may struggle with low self-esteem, troubled relationships, and poor performance in school. Symptoms sometimes lessen with age. However, some people never completely outgrow their ADHD symptoms. But they can learn strategies to be successful.

While treatment won't cure ADHD, it can help a great deal with symptoms. Treatment typically involves medications and behavioural interventions. Early diagnosis and treatment can make a big difference in outcome.

## STRATEGIES

- 👉 Sit near the teacher, within the class setting and surround with good role models.
- 👉 Reduce the number of changes/disruptions as far as possible.
- 👉 Give one task at a time and monitor progress.
- 👉 Have pre-established consequences for good and bad behaviour and stick to them. Work with the pupil to determine these.
- 👉 Use a timer to measure and extend time on task.
- 👉 Allow pupil to scribble, draw, squeeze stress ball whilst you talk, or something that will allow them to fiddle (but only if they can do this sensibly) – encourage highlighting, underlining.
- 👉 Use 'post its' for questions and ideas rather than interrupt.
- 👉 Do a stop – 10 second count before hand up/speaking.
- 👉 Stay calm and clear if pupil's behaviour is poor.
- 👉 Reinforce positive behaviour and establish a system to signal good and bad.
- 👉 Control size and members of any group work – begin with positive peer buddy.
- 👉 Give a set time for writing and do not extend into break time – your pupil will need these breaks.
- 👉 Use pupil's name and give eye contact before giving instructions, giving instructions simply and clearly. Check that he or she has understood.
- 👉 Chunk instructions and support with visual cues.
- 👉 Check regularly that the pupil is on task.
- 👉 Give the pupils credit for any improvement and efforts made.
- 👉 Give the child credit for time and effort spent on work. Consider marking the children's correct answers instead of their mistakes.
- 👉 Keep parents informed about upcoming tests and assignments.
- 👉 Support with organisation reminders – is work written in planner / can they take a picture of homework written on the board, so they have a record.
- 👉 Make tasks short, with frequent breaks and opportunities to move around.
- 👉 Use a planned reward system.
- 👉 Say what you want the child to do rather than what you don't, "I want you to keep your hands in your lap" instead of "Stop bothering..."

# ASC - Quality First Teaching

## DESCRIPTION

Autism, or “Autistic Spectrum Condition” (ASC) as the condition is officially known, is a disorder of development, characterised by impairment of language, communication and social interaction, rigidity of thought and behaviour, poor motor coordination and sensory perceptual differences. It affects how children make sense of the world around them.

It is a spectrum condition, which means that, while all people with autism share certain difficulties, their condition will affect them in different ways. Some people with autism are able to live relatively independent lives but others may have accompanying learning disabilities and need a lifetime of specialist support. People with autism may also experience over or under-sensitivity to sounds, touch, tastes, smells, lights or colours.

## STRATEGIES

- 👉 Use the pupil's name before giving instructions.
- 👉 An individual workstation can be helpful if they struggle socially.
- 👉 Give explicit, clear instructions, in the order of doing (may need to be only 1 instruction at a time). Ask the pupil to repeat the instructions.
- 👉 Don't use phrases such as 'Do you want to .....?', 'Shall we.....?', as they may be taken as an option to refuse participation.
- 👉 Use visual cues to make verbal information meaningful.
- 👉 Give examples of completed work so that pupil knows intended outcome or can parallel model.
- 👉 Break task down into meaningful parts.
- 👉 Give explicit work targets which are achievable and shared with pupil.
- 👉 Make initial eye contact, but do not expect to maintain it. Don't ask for them to look at you when talking, this will be very difficult for them, it is not defiance.
- 👉 Allow the child time to think.
- 👉 Develop clear predictable routines. Give notice if there is a room change / supply teacher etc.
- 👉 Language is taken literally, so abstract language will need to be explained at the time of use e.g. it's raining 'cats and dogs'.
- 👉 There will be a need for rules for listening, talking, turn taking, sharing, waiting, working with others, starting, finishing etc.
- 👉 Pupil needs to sit where the teacher can discretely assist and, in a place, free of distractions.
- 👉 Check homework, and when it has to be in, has been written down and pupil understands what is to be done.
- 👉 Never punish students with ASD for behaviours that are part of their disability, for example, avoidance of eye contact; talking to self; slow response time; lack of respect for others; repeating words or phrases; upset in crowd or with noise; anxiety; persevering on topics of interest; upset caused by change.
- 👉 Provide preparation for new topic vocabulary where possible so they are aware of key terms.
- 👉 Visual timetable

- If the child becomes anxious, allow them to remove themselves to an agreed calm area. Give the child a focused task to do during this time.
- Explain any changes to routine to the pupil in advance.
- Use immediate and individualised reward systems.

## Concentration difficulties - Quality First Teaching

### DESCRIPTION

Concentration issues may go hand in hand with other needs, for example, ADHD. The student may find it difficult to maintain focus for an extended period of time, or may be easily distracted by others around them. Poor concentration may also be an indication of other issues, such as literacy difficulties if a student cannot access the work, or even poor hearing or vision.

### STRATEGIES

- ▢ Seating plans should take into account the best place to sit—away from distraction (chatty friends / windows etc.)
- ▢ Tasks should be short with clear expectations
- ▢ Use of a timer to complete tasks (egg timer / digital timer on desk—you have 5 mins to complete task)
- ▢ Very short and clear explanations of task
- ▢ Break lessons into 4 or 5 short activities where possible
- ▢ Re-focus tasks as lesson goes on—or re-focus student individually every 5/10 minutes—what have you done so far, next you should...
- ▢ Ensure they understand task—ask them to repeat task back (or use visual prompt— ‘now.... / next....’ so they are clear what they need to do.)
- ▢ Use visual checklists for lesson beginnings and ending—tick list that student can tick off when each task is complete
- ▢ Lots of praise for effort—have they been able to achieve set target of work? ☑ Normal sanctions for insufficient work (unless otherwise agreed)

## SEMH difficulties- Quality First Teaching

### DESCRIPTION

Social, emotional, and mental health (SEMH) needs are a type of special educational needs in which children/young people have severe difficulties in managing their emotions and behaviour. They often show inappropriate responses and feelings to situations. This means that they have trouble in building and maintaining relationships with peers and adults; they can also struggle to engage with learning and to cope in the classroom without additional strategies and interventions. Children with SEMH will often feel anxious, scared, and misunderstood.

### STRATEGIES

- 👉 Seat child by a more settled peer
- 👉 Understanding the child's triggers and apply strategies given to you by SENCO/ outside agencies
- 👉 If a pupil becomes wound up/anxious allow him/her to remove self to an agreed calm-down area (sensory room available)
- 👉 Use Emotion Coaching as set out in the school behaviour policy. Allow them to reflect how they are feeling and strategies they can use in the future.
- 👉 ELSA support to discuss particular anxieties, social skills and strategies to use in different situations.
- 👉 Talk to the child- what do they feel they struggle with? What do they need from you?
- 👉 Identify changes to routine as soon as possible and talk this through with the child and reasons why.
- 👉 Visual rule reminders
- 👉 Remember that children (and adults) who are stressed find it hard to take in and remember complex information; make instructions short and clear
- 👉 When a child is experiencing emotional turbulence or anxiety, provide low-key tasks and increased structure and predictability in the classroom environment
- 👉 Set tasks with clear goals, outputs and timescales
- 👉 Expect to teach the child specific behavioural skills, e.g. how to ask for help
- 👉 Ensure that each lesson is a fresh start/ new opportunity.
- 👉 Make an effort to 'catch the child being good' and praise them. Aim for a ratio of four positive comments to one negative and teach the pupil how to reward themselves
- 👉 Devise a private signal system to let the child know when they are off task or behaving inappropriately
- 👉 Build in regular sensory breaks into the child's day/lessons. Allow them to have fiddle toys but teach the appropriate rules- they will need a safe place to store them.
- 👉 Use task ladders to break down tasks into achievable chunks and give clear expectations of how long they have.
- 👉 Allow the child to use post it notes for comments/questions rather than shouting out
- 👉 Find out what they know about or are good at, and have them share this with others
- 👉 Give them responsibilities in the classroom/ around school to increase their confidence
- 👉 Photocopy good pieces of work for them to take home
- 👉 Take special steps to build the relationship with the child – for example, take extra care to greet the pupil each day and say a word or two individually to them, invite them to help you with daily tasks and listen without giving advice or opinions.
- 👉 When things go wrong, reject the behaviour, not the child

- Provide support in the form of writing frames, word mats, relevant classroom displays, and prompts such as a card with ideas for 'five things to do if you're stuck with your work.'

# Dyscalculia - Quality First Teaching

## DESCRIPTION

Dyscalculia is a specific learning disability literally 'difficulty with mathematics'.

Identifying dyscalculic learning difficulties.

### **1 Number:**

Difficulty linking words with numbers.

Difficulty transferring from concrete to abstract ideas.

Difficulty with place value, sequences, time, money, counting backwards

### **2 Memory:**

Difficulty holding ideas long enough to make sense of a task or question.

### **3 Language:**

Difficulty understanding maths terms and abbreviations.

Difficulty with worded maths problems

### **4 Work:**

The pupil's work is often messy. Numbers sometimes reversed. Columns don't line up.

## STRATEGIES

- 👉 Provide concrete objects to aid calculation. Age-appropriate bricks, blocks, counters.
- 👉 Play maths games
- 👉 At the beginning of each topic, use word banks displayed on the wall in alphabetical order
- 👉 Provide a list of maths symbols (as we do with punctuation)
- 👉 Provide photocopies of copying from the board
- 👉 Use calculator
- 👉 Praise and reward- reduce anxiety associated with maths.

## DYSPRAXIA— Quality First Teaching

### DESCRIPTION

The word 'dyspraxia' comes from the Greek words 'dys' meaning bad and 'praxis', meaning action or deed. Dyspraxia is also known as Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD). It has been described as a "difficulty getting our bodies to do what we want when we want them to do it", a difficulty that can be considered significant when it interferes with the normal range of activities expected of a child of their age. Dyspraxia can adversely affect speech and language, fine motor control and gross motor coordination.

### STRATEGIES

- ☞ Give the student as much encouragement as possible.
- ☞ Be aware that handwritten work may cause frustration.
- ☞ Ensure that the student's pen and pencil grip is comfortable
- ☞ Offer alternative ways of recording work—laptop / word pad / use of mind maps / story boards etc / dictaphones.
- ☞ Allow extra time to complete tasks, particularly where there is lengthy writing, technical drawing etc.
- ☞ Do not provide too many verbal or visual instructions at once.
- ☞ Give step by step instructions and check they are understood.
- ☞ If necessary, place simple written instructions on the student's desk.
- ☞ Sit the student near the board.
- ☞ Use checklists and story planners.
- ☞ Allow access to computer technology.
- ☞ Use lined paper with margins to allow student to consider how to set out their writing.
- ☞ In Mathematics, use squared paper.
- ☞ In PE a new skill may have to be fully demonstrated before the student can perform the task.
- ☞ They may struggle with getting changed quickly before and after PE.
- ☞ In hands on subjects. they may need support to manipulate equipment.

## **HEARING IMPAIRMENT— Quality First Teaching**

### **DESCRIPTION**

Hearing impairment (HI) ranges from mild hearing loss to total deafness. Now and again a teacher working for the local authority's HI service tests students with HI to determine whether their hearing with or without a hearing aid falls within normal limits. The school subsequently receives a report with a hearing score and advice about seating the student in the classroom and supporting his/her access to the curriculum.

### **STRATEGIES**

- 👉 Make sure that hearing aid users are wearing their hearing aids.
- 👉 Ask students where they would like to sit to optimise communication, making sure they are near the teacher and away from heavy traffic areas.
- 👉 Always face students and get their attention before speaking.
- 👉 Use facial expressions, gestures and other body language to communicate.
- 👉 Repeat new vocabulary in different contexts to reinforce your message.
- 👉 Use visual aids since vision is the primary means of receiving information.
- 👉 Provide information about assignments, deadlines, exam dates etc in writing.
- 👉 Write all homework assignments and class instructions on the whiteboard, making sure that anything you write can be easily read, and refrain from talking while you are writing.
- 👉 Reduce background noise sounds normally ignored by hearing individuals are amplified by a hearing aid and interfere with communication.
- 👉 Pre-learning – prepare pupils for lessons, explaining concepts that rely on vision for understanding.
- 👉 Use short, simple sentences.
- 👉 Accept pupil's utterances but re-phrase and give them back in a grammatically correct version.
- 👉 Allow extra time to complete tasks and be aware of the fatigue the pupil may experience.
- 👉 Say pupil's name before asking a question or giving an instruction.

## Memory Difficulties — Quality First Teaching

### DESCRIPTION

Poor memory is often a result of another need, for example, students with dyslexia or a speech and language difficulty will often have difficulty with either retaining information or retrieving information. Poor working memory (for example the ability to hold information in your head and manipulate it mentally) can often be mistaken for low intelligence. Poor working memory impacts students as they need this on a daily basis for a variety of tasks in school such as following instructions or remembering what to write down.

### STRATEGIES

- 👉 Give clear instructions in short chunks—no more than 2 at a time
- 👉 Use visual task list to allow student to tick off once task is complete
- 👉 Use short tasks, and refocus after 5 minutes to ensure the student knows what to do
- 👉 ‘Chunk’ information into 2 or 3 pieces maximum
- 👉 Allow for repetition and practise - repeat key points
- 👉 In order for information to be stored to long term memory the information needs to be linked to something meaningful link to existing topics / information / create vivid personal examples that students can relate to; this will help recall in the future
- 👉 Use mnemonics to help remember e.g., Richard Of York Gave Battle in Vain—allow students to create their own - perhaps even draw pictures to link to them.
- 👉 Make visual records of ideas and key words—use mind maps
- 👉 Record ideas and listen back to them to help revise
- 👉 Make key word cards with definitions—use at beginning of lessons to revise key ideas—keep it short and sharp and revise them every so often to help store in long term memory
- 👉 Use cards - write question on one side/answer on the other—ask students to test each other.

## Organisation Difficulties— Quality First Teaching

### DESCRIPTION

Organisation difficulties can be part of several difficulties. Particularly dyslexia/ dyspraxia/ADHD. You need to be aware that being disorganised could be a result of a more complex need.

### STRATEGIES

- 👉 Monitor homework planner to make sure homework is written in—or print off homework to be stuck in / write in planner
- 👉 Allow students to take a picture of homework written on the board so parents have accurate recording of homework
- 👉 Prompting them with the more difficult tasks or breaking them down to organise ideas
- 👉 Establish clear routines for handing in work / homework
- 👉 Establish clear routines for lessons
- 👉 Provide folder for worksheets / time to stick in book
- 👉 Check student has access to materials needed to do homework.
- 👉 Use prompt sheet / reminders for tasks so student knows how to approach a task

## Reading difficulties — Quality First Teaching

Children with reading difficulties may struggle in many areas of the curriculum. This will need to be carefully considered when planning all subject areas.

### STRATEGIES

- 👉 Hear student read discretely if necessary to gauge accessibility of texts
- 👉 Provide easier texts if necessary—shorter sentences, plenty of pictures, difficult words explained
- 👉 Give reading practice of texts before embarking on task
- 👉 Where necessary provide alternative means of accessing texts. E.g., listen to recording / pair with more able peer
- 👉 Provide and discuss definitions of subject specific key words - display or provide key words list for the lesson/topic.
- 👉 On board write large and clearly, change colours every new idea if possible (to help students find and follow ideas more easily).
- 👉 Have on the board only the information needed for the lesson ⓘ Use pictures / role play / videos—not just reading.
- 👉 When reading a large amount of text, encourage students to use different coloured highlighters. One could be to highlight who, one for when, one for why etc. This then allows the student to find answers more easily and break down the text.
- 👉 Rather than having students read to the whole class, encourage paired reading so that students read to each other.
- 👉 If students do read to the class, tell them that if there is a word they don't know, they can miss it out and carry on.

## Spelling difficulties — Quality First Teaching

Spelling is a key aspect within all year groups and there is a huge focus on identifying children earlier who struggle with spelling. It is important to ensure that the right support is in place for these children in order to narrow the gap and to prepare them for their end of key-stage assessments and lift after KS2 education.

### STRATEGIES

- 👉 Provide copies of notes rather than asking student to take notes—they may miss out key points or not be able to read back what they have written
- 👉 Provide key word lists
- 👉 Display key words / topic words so they are accessible in lessons
- 👉 Allow students to record their work in different ways e.g. voice recorder / parents scribe / use of laptop
- 👉 Mark ‘target’ spellings only – these might be key words / or high frequency words.
- 👉 Correct spellings of these selected words (focus on errors which are unintelligible or are very common words). Don’t correct every error (disheartening) and don’t ignore all errors (prevents progress)
- 👉 Allow time for students to check their spelling / ensure they can use spell check if they are on laptop
- 👉 Support them using dictionaries (make sure they are confident to use them)
- 👉 Encourage strategies where they are able to try—sounding out words / dividing into syllables for longer words

## SPLD — Quality First Teaching

### DESCRIPTION

A student with a specific learning difficulty (SpLD) is as able as any other student, except in one or two areas of their learning. For instance, they may find it difficult to recognise letters, or to cope with numbers or reading. There are many different types of SpLD, but the best known is probably **dyslexia**. In dyslexia, the child has difficulty with written symbols. Although these students are generally intelligent, they have difficulty with reading, spelling and organisation. It may be difficult for parents and teachers to realise that a child has this sort of problem, especially if their development has appeared quite normal in the early years. Other types of SpLD are **dysgraphia** (writing difficulty), **dyspraxia** (motor difficulties) and **dyscalculia** (difficulty with mathematical calculations).

### STRATEGIES

- ⬧ Avoid approaches that have not worked in the past and recognise that processing difficulties will not be overcome by practice
- ⬧ Allow extra time to complete tasks and tests
- ⬧ Teach basic skills in context, using learner's own written work
- ⬧ Encourage students to identify their own strategies, e.g. mnemonics, learning by doing, so that they become independent learners
- ⬧ Encourage learners to make visual representations of information, such as mind maps
- ⬧ Use alternative tasks to writing, e.g. charts, labelled diagrams, matching activities.
- ⬧ Use pair/group work.
- ⬧ Limit written responses to key points only.
- ⬧ Provide writing frames to aid organisation and recall of content as well as reduce written requirements.
- ⬧ Provide visual reminders of writing needs and routines, e.g. check/add punctuation, underlining.
- ⬧ Provide text for reading as an alternative to copying tasks.
- ⬧ Use word banks on wall – in alphabetical order.
- ⬧ Have alphabet strip/cue cards stuck to desk
- ⬧ Provide visual cued key word lists for task, topic and subject.
- ⬧ Use word banks, personal wordbooks, spellcheckers.
- ⬧ Respond to pupil's work in a positive way. Do not penalise for errors
- ⬧ Use technology to support the development of basic skills and as an alternative means of curriculum access.
- ⬧ Give information in small chunks. Repeat key points. Provide visual reinforcement.
- ⬧ Present instructions in small steps. Use flow charts, task boards.
- ⬧ Avoid asking pupil to copy from the board
- ⬧ Repeat instructions. Chunk instructions rather than one long string.
- ⬧ Be aware that dyslexic pupils may know something one day then forget it the next
- ⬧ Do not expect pupils to remember easy sequences such as days of the week, months of the year and times tables.
- ⬧ Use cream paper or what colour paper the child has been assessed as being the most effective for children with dyslexia. Also for slides, PowerPoints etc;
- ⬧ Reduce homework to essential and manageable tasks. Write instructions for pupil.
- ⬧ Praise, praise, praise. Provide 'pack up and sort out' time.
- ⬧ Avoid black text on white background – buff or coloured paper is easier to read

## VISUAL IMPAIRMENT—Quality First Teaching

### DESCRIPTION

The term “visual impairment” (VI) refers to anyone who is blind or partially sighted, rather than those who are short-sighted (myopia), or long-sighted (hyperopia).

### STRATEGIES

- ☞ Most students with VI prefer a high level of lighting, but some need reduced or shaded light.
- ☞ Avoid glare from light reflected onto a shiny work surface or glossy book.
- ☞ Do not stand in front of an unshaded window when talking to a visually impaired student.
- ☞ Some students experience difficulty when moving from a well-lit into a dimly lit environment and they will need time for their eyes to adjust.
- ☞ A student with VI should be near the front but not facing the window.
- ☞ The student may need to move to adjust to changing light conditions.
- ☞ Bags, coats, lunch boxes etc. should not be left lying about the floor. ☠ Tilted chairs and doors left ajar are hazardous.
- ☞ Never expect visually impaired pupils to share books or worksheets.
- ☞ Clean the board regularly to maintain maximum contrast.
- ☞ Verbalise what is being written on the board, making it clear what should be written down if additional remarks are made.
- ☞ Ensure that there is no glare or reflection on the whiteboard.
- ☞ Give as many first-hand, “real”, multi-sensory experiences as possible.
- ☞ Tone of voice is more meaningful than facial expression.
- ☞ Pre-learning: prepare pupil for lesson explaining concepts that rely on vision for understanding.
- ☞ Use clear well-spaced print that is contrasted with the background according to individual pupil’s needs.
- ☞ Provide pupil with own copy of materials to be written on the board or IWB, read aloud what you or other pupils are writing up.
- ☞ Avoid extensive handwritten recording. Use ICT (on screen word bank), bullet points, mind-mapping, printout of IWB to annotate.
- ☞ Allow extra time to complete tasks and be aware of the fatigue the pupil may experience.
- ☞ Say pupil’s name before asking a question or giving an instruction.

## **Moderate Learning Difficulty / Low ability Quality First Teaching (general)**

### **DESCRIPTION**

The majority of students with special educational needs have Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD), which means they have general developmental delay. They do not find learning easy, which affects their self-esteem and may result in poor behaviour. They have short attention spans, present difficulties with basic literacy and numeracy and their reasoning and coordination skills are underdeveloped.

### **STRATEGIES**

- 👉 Keep it simple—focus on main points of topics
- 👉 Teach key words—provide key word lists/ bookmarks to use in lessons
- 👉 Praise EFFORT and ACHIEVEMENT
- 👉 Use differentiated worksheets, word banks, writing frames and ICT software
- 👉 Allow extra time to complete tasks and tests
- 👉 Improve self-esteem by building on students' strengths and interests
- 👉 Break down new tasks into bitesize chunks with plenty of opportunities for reinforcement
- 👉 Make sure that every lesson's learning objectives are realistic and allow some success to be experienced
- 👉 Check understanding, building supportive relationships and using appropriate praise, encouragement and questioning to ensure participation
- 👉 Keep tasks short, build in variety and repeat information in different ways - repetition is key, you will need to 'overlearn' by referring back to what has been done already.
- 👉 Establish what students already knows about a topic and be prepared to go back to the point where their knowledge is secure
- 👉 Show the student what to do as well as talking about it, giving concrete examples.
- 👉 Allow students to explain back to you to check understanding
- 👉 If a student wants to answer a question allow them, where possible, to answer first otherwise other students will usually give their answer. Ask another student to expand on it.
- 👉 Focus on big picture success, rather than word or spelling accuracy i.e. encourage 'thinking', not just 'reading' accuracy – in the right context 'beautiful' is much better than 'nice'
- 👉 Often some students feel overwhelmed by having to write essay type answers to show their knowledge. Alternative methods of assessment could be:
- 👉 Mind maps showing who, what, why, where, when and how. These could include pictures with some words
- 👉 Bullet points of the main points
- 👉 Storyboards including pictures and captions
- 👉 Table showing what, why, where, when and how
- 👉 Use of dictation machines to record ideas (iPad app 'Dragon Dictate')

## **Moderate Learning Difficulty Quality First Teaching (maths)**

### **STRATEGIES**

- ☞ Link maths to relevant and practical contexts – shopping, eating out etc.
- ☞ Use a ‘scaffolding’ approach – avoid rushing the student through a task. Break it down into steps. Provide time for recap & consolidation at each stage and revisit the basic skills often.
- ☞ Allow students as much thinking time as they need to complete a task or calculation, including oral / mental work. Avoid putting them on the spot by asking a question in front on an audience of peers.
- ☞ Minimise the amount of information that students have to hold in their mind at any one time. For example, if they are performing long division problems, they should write down every step including carrying numbers. When solving word problems, they should always have a scrap piece of paper handy and write down the steps in their calculations. This will help prevent them from losing their place and forgetting what they are doing.
- ☞ Use a variety of visual and kinaesthetic resources – objects, images and models. Allow the students to manipulate the resources.
- ☞ Use a variety of methods and try to adapt teaching to the student’s natural way of working out rather than simply imposing the method you have learnt / use frequently etc.
- ☞ Provide a list of maths symbols – as you would with punctuation – to remind students.
- ☞ Provide number squares and prepared formats for recording calculations / answers – with shaded alternate rows.
- ☞ Provide help/cue cards for different operations – colour code for categories i.e. blue for subtraction, red for addition. Vary the vocabulary, for example, colour code blue ‘minus’, ‘take away’ etc.
- ☞ Use small numbers when introducing new concepts. Gradually work up to higher numbers via short, small step tasks.
- ☞ Take time to explain /recap on maths vocabulary. Check for understanding.
- ☞ Play games with students to teach the points you want the students to learn. (AA team have selection of resources to support you)
- ☞ Ask lots of questions, rephrasing your sentences and varying your vocabulary.
- ☞ Encourage students to talk about what they are doing and why.
- ☞ Establish a routine of ‘estimate – calculate – check’.

## Speech and Language – Quality First Teaching

### Description

A child with speech, language and communication needs might have speech that is difficult to understand. They might struggle to say words or sentences, may not understand words that are being used, or the instructions they hear. They may have difficulties knowing how to talk and listen to others in a conversation

### Strategies

- Pre-learning – Prepare pupil so that they come to it already knowing the key vocabulary and concepts.
- Begin work with pupil's existing knowledge and experiences – mind map or other visual aid.
- Use pupil's name before asking a question or an instruction.
- Give pupil time to respond (at least 10 seconds) and then repeat what you said unless the vocabulary was too difficult.
- Accept pupil's spoken utterances but rephrase and give them back in a grammatically correct and expanded version.
- Support writing with writing frames and lists of vocabulary.
- Allow extra time to complete tasks.