

Use more comments than questions

Comment on what the child is doing or playing with instead of asking them, feed words into the child's play and actions as they are interested in them

Take turns and keep going

If they say something you might then copy, add a comment or use a gesture to indicate they can take another turn, then you again
INSTEAD OF "I saw a monkey at the zoo"-
"lovely!"
TRY "I saw a monkey at the zoo"- " oooh, tell me all about it!"

Copy what the child says and correct mistakes by modelling

Copy their word or phrase or model back what they say eg. "I cutted it" –
"yes you cut the potato with your knife"

Talk at a steady speed with pauses

Allow children time to understand you and respond in their own way

Follow the child's lead

Let them lead where the conversation is going and support their communication to keep it going and include others if appropriate

Match your language levels to the child's

Adapt to children with different language levels, scaffolding conversations and adding new vocabulary where appropriate

Watch and listen

Watching what the child is interested in and listening carefully to what they say

Use a range of intonation in your voice as appropriate

It will enthuse and motivate children to communicate

Notice and encourage ALL children's attempts to communicate

Could be a gesture, a look, sound or words?
Respond by answering, commenting or repeating

Be on the same level as the child

Being in a place where children can see your face well, following children when they move around