

TRANSCRIPT: Communicative aspects of lifelong learning (CALL)

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What we have with CALL is an assessment tool that is very useful for children who are about P7 or P8 and whose use and their understanding of language is good but their understanding of the needs of the listener is not very good.

There are a range of behaviours that we take for granted but which, actually, a great many children have a great deal of difficulty in learning. So, through CALL, we're teaching for instance, how to look at the person when you are talking to them, how you show you are listening and so forth.

Now the Government has brought out a very useful package called *Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning, SEAL*, but what we find is that many children do not have these important social communication skills and certain conceptual vocabulary to be able to benefit fully from *SEAL*. So CALL, for many children, is something that leads in to the *SEAL*-type activities.

A CALL group is several children who've been matched pretty well in terms of the profiles that have been generated as a result of assessments. Most children in this school tend to be at levels one and two.

With each unit, as it's completed, the children are making progress. They're learning particular behaviours and we have to plan explicitly for generalisation into the classroom. So there are clear objectives, which are then set in the classroom for each child in relation to particular skills that they have learnt.

All of the CALL documentation's available on the website and staff can then find all the documentation they need for profiling where children are at and for planning sessions. There are model activity sheets, which they can then adapt as appropriate to the particular group.