

## **TRANSCRIPT: Pragmatics Profile**

Rob Ashdown

*The Pragmatics Profile* was developed for use by speech and language therapists but it is very easily used within school settings by teachers and teaching assistants.

It provides a series of questions which are really asking, well, 'Is the child able to use the language skills that they have got to express themselves in particular ways?' and you're not just having to focus in on the spoken word because perhaps they use gesture, vocalisation, sign or symbols, as well as the spoken word or as alternatives to the spoken word.

The notion is that people who know the child well will get together and discuss the child, and obviously it is useful to get the parents involved in that process as well because, quite often, a child may be saying and doing things at home that we don't ever see in school and vice versa.

You want a fairly accurate description written in relation to all of those questions that were asked and once the profile has been written up, it would be shared with all the people who participate in the meeting.

It's a qualitative tool rather than a summative tool. You certainly don't end up with a score or anything like that. So when you are looking for progress, you have to compare what you wrote before in relation to *The Pragmatics Profile* when you're looking at it the next time round.