

## **TRANSCRIPT: Signing**

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The lesson this morning happens every week. One week it could be a song, the next week it could be a story. It's children coming together from all areas of the school and it's introducing new signs to the children but also giving them opportunities to consolidate the signs that they've already learnt, in a fun and motivating way.

Signing is just one area of communication that some of the children have in this school. Some children just use signing and it's very important to them because it's a way of communicating their needs and their wants so that someone else is able to understand them, but with other children, it will sit alongside other forms of communication.

Signing is like a visual clue. You don't just do the sign, you'll sign and speak at the same time, so if children can understand a sign you can teach new concepts.

The aim of the school is to involve everybody in signing and it's really important that we all know the basic signs.

There will be courses run regularly to introduce new members of staff to signing and that isn't just teachers and TAs. That would involve staff in reception, lunchtime supervisors, anyone who comes into contact with children. We also invite escorts and drivers who transport the children to and from school, everyone - physiotherapists - they're all given the opportunity to attend courses, and also parents who would like to have more information on signing, they come and do workshops in school as well.