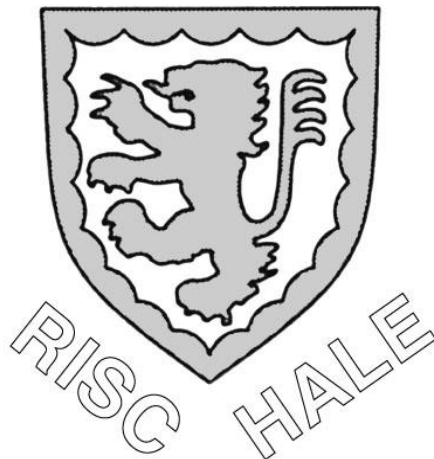


# **Rushall J.M.I. School**



## **A Communication Friendly School 2009/2010**

**Visual Timetables**

Visual timetables showing the structure of the day, week and session are used to explain routines and help pupils organise their day.



Timetables are clearly displayed and referred to. Staff at Rushall J.M.I. School use visual timetable either with photographs or symbols showing the activities for the day. This will reduce anxiety about what is happening and makes everyone feel safe.

All areas have photographs to show the function of each room and the adults working in there.



Labels are used in the classroom to reinforce key places and help children be independent.



Pupils are given the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge in a variety of ways.



**Symbols, photographs and objects of reference**

To maintain interest staff show pictures, photographs or real objects. This gives an opportunity to make links with the spoken word.



Classroom displays are clearly labelled using Makaton symbols or Objects of Reference to reinforce keywords.



## Staff Adapt their Language

Staff change their presentation according to the environment and situation by:

- Slowing down their speech.
- Emphasising key words by adding a simple gesture or Makaton signing.
- Simplifying their language,
- Giving pupils time to think
- Reinforcing important concepts with real objects, photographs or symbols.
- Always using the pupil's name.

Symbols and words together support learning. They can help with:

- Developing social and emotional aspects of learning.
- Building positive relationships.
- Learning and the curriculum.
- Learning to read.
- Developing vocabulary.
- Developing independence.
- Developing inclusion.

### **Rules for active communication**

At Rushall J.M.I. active communication skills are encouraged throughout the school:

- Good listening
- Good talking
- Good sitting
- Good waiting
- Good sharing
- Good thinking

