



Remove all pressure for the pupil to talk and do not try to bribe them (e.g. saying "if you answer you can have XY".)



Give the pupil lots of praise for the things they do well.



Let the pupil know you understand they have sometimes have difficulties speaking (e.g. "I know it's hard to talk sometimes and that's okay".)



Strategies to

Support Pupils

With Selective

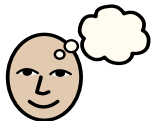
Mutism



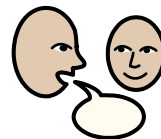
Encourage non-verbal communication (e.g. nodding, pointing, writing it down) if the pupil is able to.



Respond naturally to any attempts to communicate (e.g. gesture, whispering.)



Use 'I wonder...' phrases rather than questions (e.g. "I wonder if you did any painting...")



If the pupil does talk, do not draw any attention to it. Try to respond naturally.



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