

Communicating with disabled children

4 top tips...

it's OK NOT TO KNOW

I didn't know that Simon uses Makaton signs to communicate

A doctor with a stethoscope and clipboard is talking to a boy in a wheelchair. The doctor is pointing towards the boy. The boy is thinking about a hand sign, which is a Makaton sign for 'know'.

JUST ASK

I'll find out the best way to communicate with Tom

I want to feel safe and comfortable

A doctor with a stethoscope is talking to a boy sitting on the floor. The doctor is smiling and looking at the boy. The boy is thinking about feeling safe and comfortable.

FIND OUT HOW THE CHILD SAYS YES OR NO

Molly claps her hands when she means 'yes'

A boy and a girl are talking. The boy is asking a question and the girl is clapping her hands. A speech bubble from the girl says 'Molly claps her hands when she means 'yes''.

TALK with the CHILD NOT JUST the PARENTS

So... should we talk about the problem then?

No

Parents

A boy and a girl are talking. The boy is asking a question and the girl is clapping her hands. A speech bubble from the boy says 'So... should we talk about the problem then?'. A speech bubble from the girl says '*No*'. An arrow points from the word 'Parents' to the girl.