

SALT TIP OF THE WEEK



Connection Before Communication

Before we focus on what a student communicates, let's focus on how connected they feel.

Meaningful communication is much more likely to happen when students feel safe, understood, and genuinely interested in by the adults around them.

This week, try spending a little less time asking questions and a little more time commenting, sharing observations, and joining in with what interests the student. A simple "You're really enjoying that!" or "I can see you've worked hard on this" can reduce pressure and create opportunities for authentic communication.

When we prioritise connection first, communication often follows naturally, whether through speech, AAC, gestures, facial expressions, or behaviour.

Connection first. Communication follows.