

This document gives feedback from two parents. One parent had English as their dominant language. For the other parents, BSL was their dominant language.

<i>Question</i>	<i>Child</i>	<i>Before</i>	<i>After</i>
<i>1. Tell us about your child's language difficulties</i>	A	She has a lot of frustration, leading to anger at not being able to express herself. She has a lack of understanding of complex issues (more than two elements), is unable to focus, and is easily distracted	She has difficulty with understanding subtle language. Needs yes/no, and not maybe in spoken communication. Her development in BSL has shown us (through BSL interpreters) an increased vocabulary in BSL that she cannot always demonstrate vocally.
	B	He has limited vocabulary, difficulty recalling events or information but he can remember things he has done. He can't explain things, if I don't understand he will repeat, I can ask him to do this. He cannot understand long explanations or stories.	He's using more signs like before, after, when, where, what. For example he has a Star Wars sticker book, he asks if characters are good or bad. BB8 who is that? He will ask and let me explain. He's more interested in books and stories. He looks at a book and asks me what it's about, what's happened in the story, he asks me about characters.
<i>2. How do you help your child with their language?</i>	A	We are trying to improve our signing. I practise new words with her to encourage her to pronounce them clearly	We have started learning BSL so we can help her communicate. Breaking down a word to help her learn to say it properly. We use subtitles on TV and watch some BSL clips together
	B	When I don't understand him, I give him choices of what he might mean. I keep information brief and repeat it. We use signs he knows well within the family.	He will watch and wait now, let me explain and ask me to explain. If I don't understand he will repeat now, more patient. Sometimes he asks me about something. I tell him we discussed it before, ask can he remember, he thinks, I give him time.
<i>3. Language therapy – how will it help or how did it help?</i>	A	It will enable her to be happy with herself. Empower her to be able to express herself fully hopefully avoiding frustration/anger. Encourage her so she feels she can bridge between Deaf society and the mainstream hearing society and be content in both	It has given me a better understanding of how difficult language can be, how easy it can be to misinterpret words, leading to potential upset.
	B	I want him to be able to communicate well so that he can have more friends and not react aggressively.	He's improved. He's more patient, if I don't understand he will repeat, I can ask 'You mean...' and he will agree or change it. Lots has changed.

Language therapy helped these parents focus more on their child's individual strengths and needs. In the comments after language therapy, they discuss the two way communication process more.

Language therapy helped parents think about the strategies they could use to help their communication with their child and support their child's language development.

Understanding their child's skills enabled these parents to change their communication and language strategies to better meet their child's needs. It reduced frustration for children and parents during shared communication.

These examples all relate to BSL and sign use as this was the focus of the study.