

# Talking Matters

[www.talkingmatters.com.au](http://www.talkingmatters.com.au) Ph: 8255 7137  
*Helping your child to reach their potential*



## Listening skills and ASD

*Students with autism spectrum disorder often have poor listening skills. This will impact on their ability to understand and follow instructions at home and within the classroom. The following strategies may be helpful:*

- Gain the student's attention before giving instructions
- Use short simple instructions
- Be very concise and specific
- Use simple sentence structures
- Avoid using abstract concepts
- Break down longer instructions into a series of steps.
- Support verbal instructions with visuals and or gestures
- Repeat information as required
- Use visual demonstrations where possible
- Explicitly teach listening behaviours:
  1. Legs still
  2. Hands in Lap
  3. Look at person talking
  4. Lips quiet
  5. Listen to teacher

