

Early Vocabulary

The early vocabulary bilingual pupils will need can be introduced successfully in the classroom. Some vocabulary will be acquired naturally. However, you will also need to introduce language in a structured way. At first your pupil will be listening and may be reluctant to respond for quite a while or may be happy to respond to his/her peers but not to you. Try to include opportunities for language to be modelled, e.g. answering the register, circle time.

After the first few days, consider vocabulary concerned with:

- **Greetings** : Hello, Good morning / afternoon, Goodbye
- **Agreement/disagreement**: Yes, No, I like... I don't like...
- **Identifying objects/people**: This is a... It's a... What's this? Who's this?
- **Physical characteristics/feelings**: I'm happy / sad / hungry / thirsty / cold / hot I've got black hair / blue eyes
- **Numbers**: How many?, I've got 2 sisters, There are 4 boys
- **Possession**: This is **my** pencil; I've **got** a car; **whose** bag is this?
- **Where things are**: Where's the book?, It's in / on / by / under / behind
- **Actions**: I'm reading / writing / running / walking / eating; what are you doing?

* Remember the new pupil will need to learn everyone's name and may need help with pronunciation.