



We are delighted to offer a Makaton Beginners Workshop for Parents/carers/family members from across North Ayrshire. Monies from Pupil Equity fund is being utilised to fund this therefore there will be no charge.

This will be held in-  
James Reid School  
Primrose Place  
Saltcoats

From 4pm till 6pm

This is a 7 week block if you book a place you are signing up to all classes.

Dates- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March.

This beginners Workshop is being delivered over 7 weeks and provides information about Makaton, who uses it and why. We will teach signs from stages 1-4 plus the additional vocabulary and provides ideas and supports on how to introduce Makaton.

Parents and family members have the most important role in supporting language and communication skills as they spend most time with children and skills are developed during the interactions and conversations we have within daily routines. It is utilising these opportunities that supports all children to maximise their potential.

Makaton is a language programme using signs and symbols to help people to communicate. It is designed to support spoken language and the signs and symbols are used with speech, in spoken word order.

With Makaton, children and adults can communicate straight away using signs and symbols. Many people then drop the signs or symbols naturally at their own pace, as they develop speech.

For those who have experienced the frustration of being unable to communicate meaningfully or effectively, Makaton really can help. Makaton takes away that frustration and enables individuals to connect with other people and the world around them. This opens up all kinds of possibilities.

Makaton uses signs, symbols and speech to help people communicate. Signs are used, with speech, in spoken word order. This helps provide extra clues about what someone is saying. Using signs can help people who have no speech or whose speech is unclear. Using symbols can help people who have limited speech and those who cannot, or prefer not to sign.

Makaton is extremely flexible as it can be personalised to an individual's needs and used at a level suitable for them.

**There is a maximum of 15 places so please contact Jo Ford  
[makaton@aapct.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:makaton@aapct.scot.nhs.uk) 07500125199 to reserve your space**