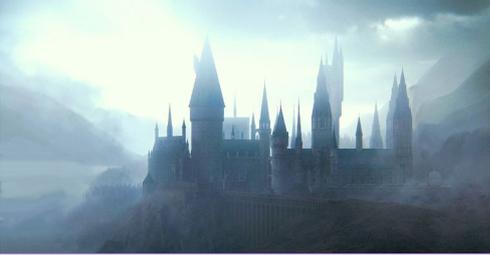


Making Makaton Magic in your Setting

 Making Makaton Magic in Your Setting



Makaton

 Making Makaton Magic in Your Setting

GARY COFFEY
@Gary_Coffey01

HEADTEACHER – IVY HOUSE SCHOOL (DERBY)
@IvyHouseSchool

MAKATON REGIONAL TUTOR
@MakatonCharity

(Avid Potter fan and aspiring Gryffindor)



PS – Not the actual Harry Potter (I know, hard to believe!)

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 What is Makaton?

Makaton is a multi-modal language programme that uses:

- Speech
- Signs
- Symbols

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Makaton What is Makaton?

- for basic communication
- to help understanding
- to develop language skills
- to facilitate social interaction
- to help build relationships
- to increase equal opportunities
- to develop pre-reading and pre-writing skills towards literacy

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Makaton Who Uses Makaton?

Babies, children and adults with a broad range of communication needs (and those without – *Makaton Signing for Babies*)

Interactors of all kinds:
parents, carers, professionals, friends

Frustration
Anger
Loss of confidence
Feelings of inadequacy
May give up because of lack of rewarding experience, leading to:
-withdrawal
-isolation



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Makaton What is Makaton?

- Core Vocabulary (450 concepts) – Stages 1-8 + Additional
- Resource Vocabulary (11,000+ concepts and growing)
- Always used with speech together with signs and/ or symbols (*giving as many clues as possible*)
- Flexible teaching methods

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Makaton **What is Makaton?**



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Makaton **When Did Makaton Begin?**

1968 Botleys Park Hospital (Surrey)

- Margaret Walker MBE
- Studied over 1100 'patients' and created threshold document (essential vocabulary) and expanded studies to schools and children, as well as community living.

Margaret
A
Kathy (working with the deaf using BSL)
A
Tony
O
N

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Makaton **When Did Makaton Begin?**

Signs, Symbols & Speech

- Took over 5 years to design and research suitable symbols to support the signs and speech that was being used at the time.
- This enabled greater inclusivity for those who may have been physically unable to make the signs and hand shapes.



Drink Bus Tree To Stand/ To Stand Up To Run To Dance

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Makaton Research Underpinning Success

Much research has been carried out from the 1970s – Present

Sheehy, K. Duffy, H. (2009)
Attitudes to Makaton in the ages of integration and inclusion. International Journal of Special Education, 24, 2.

Research shows that Makaton is often referred to as a sign language. Research also shows that the use of symbols together with signs works well. This confirms that a multi-modal approach, such as the Makaton Language Programme, is likely to be most successful.
<http://www.makaton.org/resources/research/SheehyDuffy2009.pdf>

DFE Research Report (2012)
Technical report DFE-RR247-BCRP13: Exploring interventions for children and young people with speech, language and communication needs: a study of practice

Makaton is the **second most used programme**, as used by Speech and Language Therapists. On average only Derbyshire Language Programme is used more. Makaton can of course be used with DLS.
Makaton is the **most used intervention** with children **0-2 years**, used by 82% of SLTs.
<http://www.makaton.org/resources/research/DFE-RR247-BCRP13.pdf>

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Makaton Making Makaton Magic



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Makaton Making Makaton Magic...

- Creating language rich environments, **modelling**, signing, parent/carer & child interaction, reading questions, waiting for response, repetition, commentary, reducing distractions, forced alternatives, providing feedback, visual timetables
- We all need to be a part of the child's communication – family, friends, interactive partners
- Make it **FUN, engaging** and child centred (build on strengths and interests/personal experience).



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M Starting to Use Signs and Symbols

Practise signing

- words
- everyday phrases
- questions and variety (verbs, nouns etc.)

Practise using symbols

- draw symbols
- write symbol phrases

Personalise the vocabulary

- The Children and Families Act 2014, Section 19, sets out the importance of engaging with children, young people and their families so that their views, wishes and feelings are considered.

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M Focusing on Everyday Experience

Enables children to develop skills:

- name objects
- ask for things
- describe objects or events
- say no
- ask questions
- make choices

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M Fun Activities To Get Started With The Magic...

Makaton Signed Songs and Nursery Rhymes

28 videos • 3,042,254 views • Last updated on 28 May 2020

A collection of Makaton signed Nursery Rhymes from our collection of videos. "The Singing Time" is a singing time 1" and "It's Singing Time 2" all featuring Makaton signs and symbols. There are also tables for these resources and other useful links.

Singing Hands

Something Special - Dancing With Mr Tumble: Season 1

Learning & Education • 2016 • U • English

Official Show:

Using a sign language called Makaton, Justin and Mr Tumble help children learn how to communicate and develop language skills in a fun and exciting way.

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Makaton Magical Signing...

 Good (1)	 More
 Hello/ Hi/ Good Morning	 Goodbye

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Makaton Magic...

Magic	
Magic	

Makaton

Makaton Final piece of magic...

"Words are in my not-so-humble opinion, the most inexhaustible form of magic we have..."
(Prof. Dumbledore, Deathly Hallows)

So let's give all children a 'voice' and ensure that they can communicate and be an active part of their world. Makaton is a great piece of 'magic' to support this.



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 **Further reading and research...** 

Jones, K. (2016)
Using Makaton to develop a Total Communication environment
www.thecomunicationstrust.org.uk/medi469916/makaton_case_study.pdf

Roulstone, S. et al (2015)
Evidence-based intervention for preschool children with primary speech and language impairments: Child Talk – an exploratory mixed-methods study
www.gowerd@hpa.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/15119/FullReport.pdf%202015.pdf

Peninsula Cerebra Research Unit (2014)
To what extent does the use of Makaton Sign & Symbol support the communication of children who have neurological conditions?
www.pcnru.org.uk/ence/otherissues/treatment/therapies/communication/

Down Syndrome Education International
Signing improves early vocabulary learning and communication
<http://www.dse-international.org/press-releases/2014-06-24-14/>

Grove, N. (1980)
Current research findings to support the use of sign language with adults and children who have intellectual and communication handicaps.
<https://www.mh-hsa.org/Assets/Research/Sign/Lingua31980.pdf>

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