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WELL-BEING DEVELOPMENT, CANYOUHEARUS?

Encouraging empowerment and leadership

AIMS

- Explore your role as a communications support professional
- Understand the differences between your needs and the student's needs
- Investigate the skills required to promote independence
- Importance of ACTIVE LISTENING
- Demonstrate the importance of 'reading messages'

WHY DO YOU DO WHAT YOU DO?

In the role of a communication support professional, write down your answer to the above question

Think about:

- What drove you to become a CSP/deaf professional
- What you want to achieve professionally or emotionally
- Career aspirations



DISCUSSION: WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT SKILLS YOU NEED AS A COMMUNICATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL?

Consider:

YOUR NEED

STUDENT NEED

WHAT IS LISTENING AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- Listening is not the same as hearing
- Requires focus
- Must pay attention to how things are said and how the other person uses their voice and body language
- Listening is understanding both verbal and non-verbal cues
- Your ability depends on these



“The most basic and powerful way to connect to another person is to listen. Just listen. Perhaps the most important thing we ever give each other is our attention.”

Rachel Naomi Remen

THAT'S GREAT BUT ISN'T THAT COMMON SENSE?

- Do you really know your student?
- Next time you see friends, meet new people or work with a student, try to spend some time **ACTIVELY LISTENING**. Be aware of what they are saying and try to understand the complete message.

'Oh wow, I LOVE your dress'

'It's a bit cold in here'

'Do you want to come in for a coffee'

'I can't do that'

ARE YOU DEPENDENT ON YOUR STUDENT? OR ARE THEY DEPENDENT ON YOU?

- Have you ever felt overwhelmed by your students communication skills?
- Have you ever had a conversation about your student whilst the student is present, yet not included?
- Has a teacher ever engaged in a conversation with you that's not about your student during class?
- Have you ever tried to 'teach' your student rather than 'support' them?
- Have you ever put yourself in your students shoes?
- Do you talk to your student about negative experiences in your personal life?
- Has your student ever said 'I don't know' or 'It's too hard' without first trying?

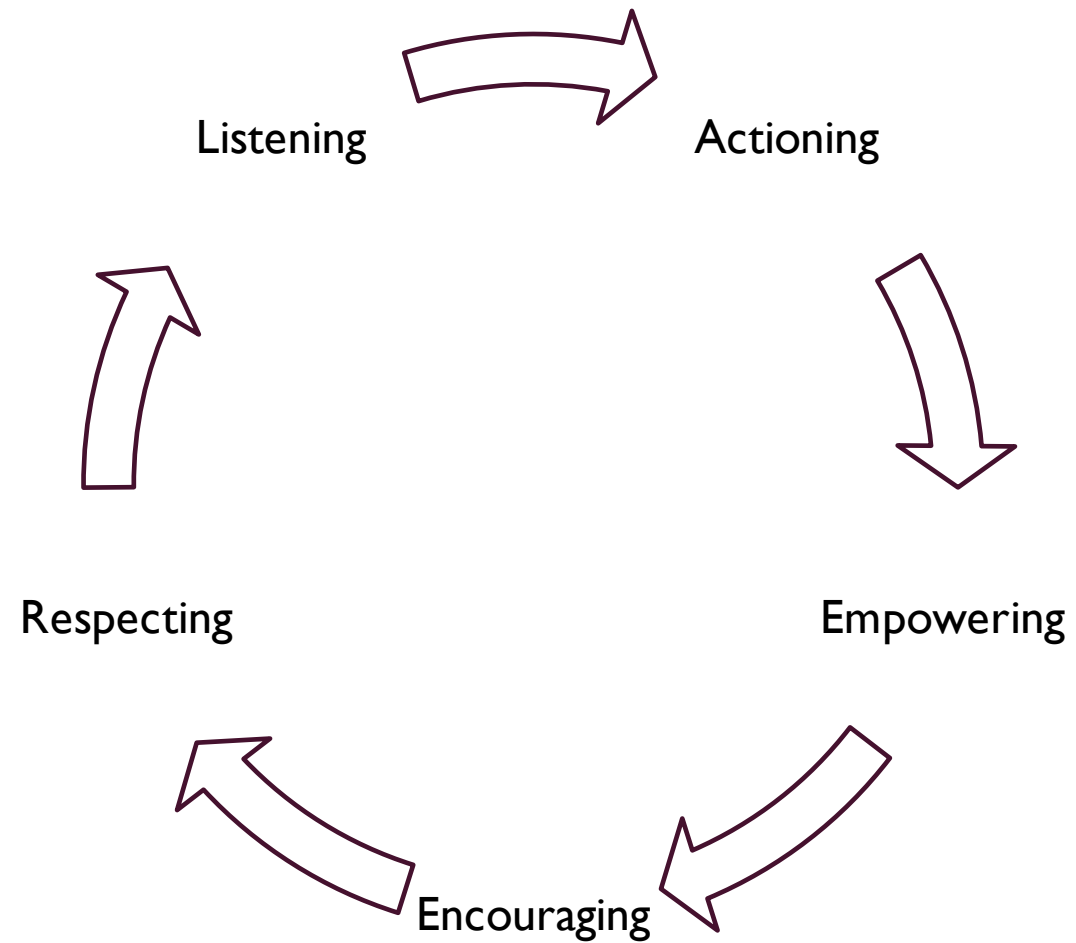
DEAF LEARNERS CONFERENCE 2013



Main points from Deaf students:

- Lack of listening
- Convenience over aspirations
- Ability to achieve
- Overuse of personal perception

BUILDING CONFIDENCE



THANK YOU FOR LISTENING



SO, HOW
MUCH
LOST POTENTIAL
ARE
YOU COOL **WITH?**