

## **Hello to the national year of communication**

*Hello* is a campaign to increase understanding of how important it is for children and young people to develop good communication skills.

In the UK today, over 1 million children and young people have some form of speech, language and communication need. This can affect them severely and for life.

The *Hello* campaign will provide parents and professionals with a range of information and resources that will build greater awareness of children and young people's communication milestones and how to spot if they are struggling. Milestone posters, easy to understand publications, 'ages and stages' booklets and top tips leaflets are available from [www.hello.org.uk](http://www.hello.org.uk).

The campaign is run by The Communication Trust, a coalition of 40 leading voluntary sector organisations in partnership with Jean Gross – the Government's Communication Champion. BT and Pearson Assessment are sponsoring *Hello* and the campaign is backed by the Department for Education and the Department of Health.

The flagship event for the *Hello* campaign is the Shine a Light awards, which will recognise the excellent work and achievement by the children's workforce in developing the communication skills of the children and young people they work with.

Please visit [www.hello.org.uk](http://www.hello.org.uk) to get involved, sign up for regular updates and find out how to apply for a Shine a Light award. You can also follow the campaign on Twitter.