Speech Ease

OWL

Hanen strategy to increase opportunities for communication and gengagement with your child

Observe

Look and notice what your child is interested in. Are they looking out the window at a truck going past, are they trying to get away from an activity to run around the kitchen table instead?

Listen

There may be many different ways your child is trying to send you a message i.e. they may be looking, smiling, gesturing or showing you something

Wait

Waiting without talking creates the opportunity for your child to send a message, it gives you time to observe what your child might do or say. The process of waiting allows you to naturally observe and listen. There are three steps to waiting:

- Stop talking
- Lean forward, face-to-face with your child
- Look at your child expectantly

By waiting and looking expectantly, you are letting your child know that you are ready for them to respond or take the lead.

What is the Hanen Approach?

There are several programs developed by the Hanen Centre, a not for profit organisation based in Montreal, Canada, that provides training for families, and early childhood professionals to help their children with communication delays.

There are several popular Hanen parent coaching programs, and Speech Ease runs the Hanen It Takes Two To Talk program for parents with children 0-5 years of age with communication delays.

The Hanen More Than Words Program is a parent training program that has been designed to help parents improve their understanding of autism and learn how autistic children develop their social communication skills. It provides parents with practical strategies to use within their daily interactions with their child. The aim of the program is to improve parent-child relationships; to foster communication skills between parents and their children; and to foster communication between children and their family, peers and carers/educators.

Locations: Williams Landing & North Melbourne | **Instagram:** @speecheasesp_melbourne | **Facebook:** @speecheasesp | TikTok: @speechease

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