Children learn best through play because it is fun. Children will learn best when they are interested and when they can lead the play. This means letting them choose how to start playing and then joining in the game.

You can help a child learn through play by providing the toys and opportunities, watching how he plays and showing him how to play in new ways. This will help him build new skills.

There are several different types of play which a child will learn gradually as he develops.

- **People Play**
- **Sensory & Exploratory Play**
- **Cause and effect Play**
- **Physical Play**
- **Construction Play**
- **Creative Play**
- **Pretend Play**

**Learning through play is vital for the development of a child’s communication skills.**

Play can improve social interaction skills such as eye contact, turn taking and copying sounds and actions. It can also help develop understanding, use of language and gesture, concentration and listening and imagination.

Play can also help develop other new skills such as physical and movement skills, general learning and problem solving.