Positive Praise

Make praise specific

Instead of ‘well done!’ or “good boy” and so on, make it clear what you are praising e.g. ‘that was a great ‘k’ sound’ or ‘I liked that you used a ‘where’ word in that sentence!‘

Being specific, e.g. “that’s good listening” can help children know what to do next time.

Praise effort as well as getting it right

As well as providing praise when children achieve, children need praise to keep them motivated and to encourage them to keep trying.

e.g. ‘You tried really hard to remember your ‘t’ sound today’

Keep praise realistic

Whilst it is important to provide lots of praise, unrealistic praise or praise that is ‘over the top’ can set high expectations and put pressure on children

Instead of ‘that’s the best sentence I’ve ever heard!’

Try ‘I can tell you tried really hard to make that a good sentence!’