

The Principles of a **Multisensory, Structured Language (MSL) Approach**

Simultaneous, Multisensory (VAKT)

Skills are taught using all the learning pathways in the brain (i.e., Visual, Auditory, Kinesthetic-Tactile) simultaneously or sequentially in order to enhance memory and learning.

Sequence is not left to chance. The order of teaching follows the logical order of the language. The sequence begins with the easiest and most basic concepts and progresses methodically to more difficult material.

It's like building a wall: each concept provides the underpinning for the next one to be taught.

Systematic and Cumulative

Direct Instruction

Teaching is done face-to-face, with the student and teacher interacting.

The teaching plan is individualised. Student's needs are constantly assessed and teaching is tailored accordingly.

Diagnostic

Explicit

Concepts are taught clearly and in detail, leaving no room for confusion or doubt.

MSL programs include both synthetic and analytic instruction. Synthetic instruction presents the parts of the language and then teaches how the parts work together to form a whole. Analytic instruction presents the whole and teaches how this can be broken down into its component parts.

Synthetic and Analytic Instruction

Comprehensive and Inclusive

All levels of language are addressed, often in parallel, including sounds (phonemes), symbols (graphemes), meaningful word parts (morphemes), word and phrase meanings (semantics), sentences (syntax), longer passages (discourse), and the social uses of language (pragmatics).