Aistear’s theme of **Communicating** is about children sharing their experiences, thoughts, ideas, and feelings with others with growing confidence and competence in a variety of ways and for a variety of purposes. (See pages 34-41 for the full text on **Communicating**.)

### Learning goals

**Aim 1:** Children will use non-verbal communication skills.

- use a range of body movements, facial expressions, and early vocalisations to show feelings and share information
- understand and use non-verbal communication rules
- interpret and respond to non-verbal communication by others
- understand and respect that some people rely on non-verbal communication
- combine non-verbal and verbal communication
- express themselves creatively and imaginatively using non-verbal communication.

**Aim 2:** Children will use language.

- use an expanding vocabulary of words and phrases, and show a growing understanding of syntax and meaning
- use language with confidence and competence for a variety of purposes
- become proficient users of at least one language and have an appreciation of other languages
- be positive about their home language, and know that they can use different languages to communicate.

**Aim 3:** Children will broaden their understanding of the world through language.

- use language to interpret experiences, to solve problems, and to clarify thinking, ideas and feelings
- use books and ICT for fun, to gain information and broaden their understanding of the world
- build awareness of the variety of symbols used to communicate, and understand that those can be read by others
- become familiar with and use a variety of print
- have opportunities to use a variety of mark-making materials and implement
- develop counting skills and a growing understanding of the meaning and use of numbers and mathematical language.

**Aim 4:** Children will express themselves creatively and imaginatively.

- connect to and create artistic experiences through story, poetry, song, and drama
- show confidence in trying out new things, taking risks, and thinking creatively.