

#### Researchers Into Management







**Effective Communications** 



#### **Objectives for today**

- To explain how interpersonal relationships and communication skills affect managerial performance.
- To identify barriers to communication and effective interpersonal realtionships in the organisation and devise strategies to overcome them.

 "The two words information and communication are often used interchangeably, but they signify quite different things. Information is giving out; communication is getting through."

Sydney Harris



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# What do we need to communicate about?

Main terms and conditions of employment Information about how to do the job properly Review of personal objectives and development The bigger picture

#### **Productive Meetings**

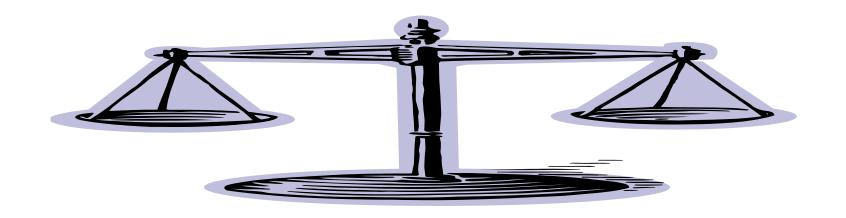
- Adequate preparation
- Agreement to action
- Staying on the subject
- Clearly set objectives
- Beginning on time
- Ending on time
- Having a written agenda
- The physical environment



## Achieving the balance

- Keep to the agenda
- Keep to time
- Stick to the subject
- Agree actions

- \* Allow debate
- \* Facilitate discussions
- \* Involve everyone
- \* Encourage creativity





## Which method would you use:

- To share an interesting article with colleagues
- To congratulate a colleague that has been promoted
- To tell people the date of the next team meeting
- To inform a member of staff that an application to attend a training course had been turned down
- To invite views from your team about a proposed restructure

 If a message is important it should be communicated at least 3 times in 3 different ways











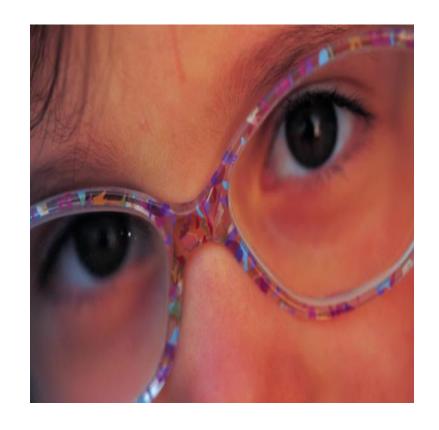
## **Strong Communicators:**

Adapt their style Ask questions Actively listen Are congruent Give constructive feedback



### The 3 Perceptual Positions

1<sup>st</sup> Position – seeing and feeling the situation through our own eyes 2<sup>nd</sup> Position – stepping into the other persons shoes 3<sup>rd</sup> Position – ability to stand back and view the situation as a third party



## **Empathy**



Put yourself mentally in the other person's shoes. What might it feel like to be them?

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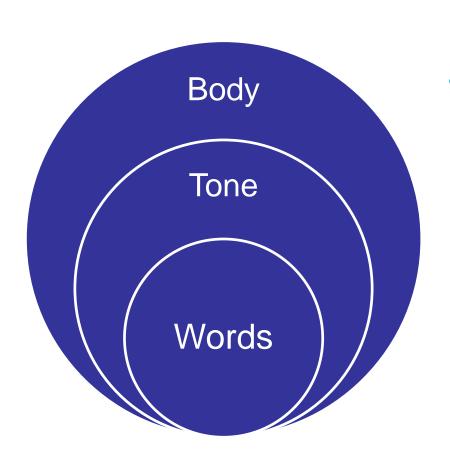
#### **Five Levels of Listening**

- Waiting to speak
- Listening to tell our story
- Listening to give advice
- Listening and asking for more
- Intuitive listening





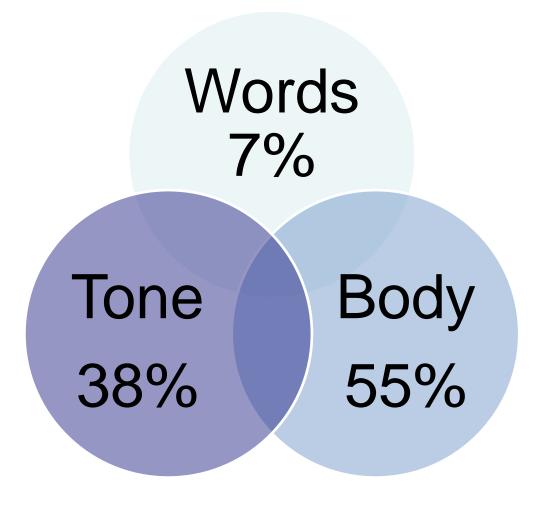
#### Congruence



 When our words, tone and body language are congruent 99% of the meaning comes from what we say



#### Congruence





#### Influencing

Defining what you want

Assessing the views of others

Defining your influencing power

Communicating appropriately

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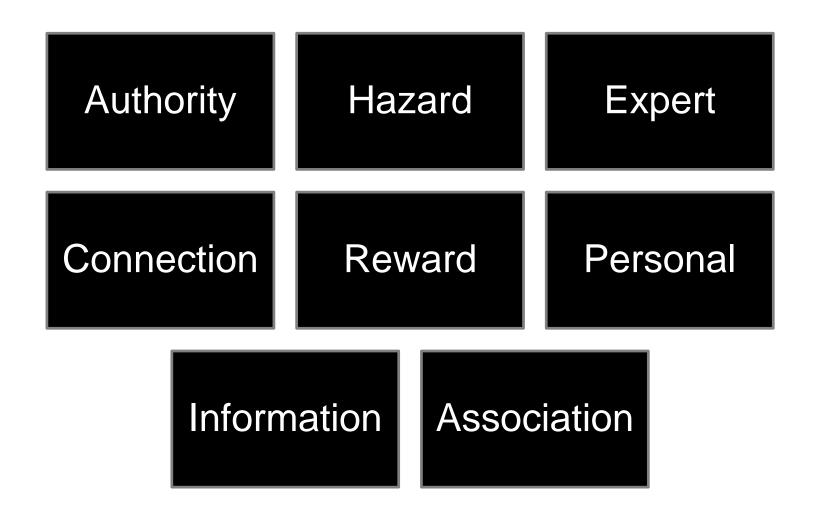
#### Capacity to Influence

 What could I do to persuade you to stay here until 6.00pm this evening?





#### Power to Influence



In the following examples which sources of power do you think would be the most influential?

- To influence academic staff to complete leave forms
- To influence staff to take part in the staff survey
- To influence a recruitment or promotion panel



### Johari's Window

	Known to Self	Unknown to Self
Known to Others	Open Knowledge	Blind Spot
Unknown to Others	Hidden Knowledge	Knowledge yet to be revealed

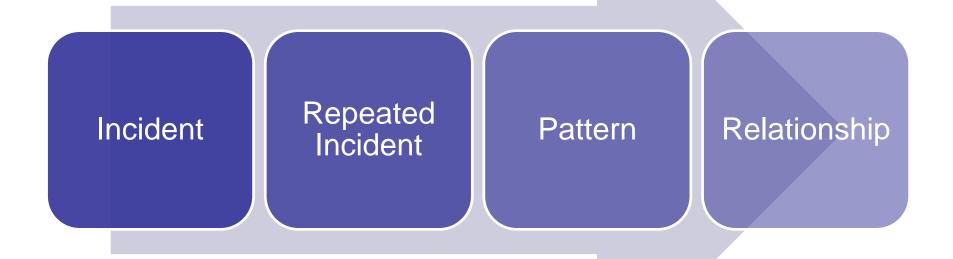


#### **Definition of Feedback**

 Feedback is information about performance that leads to action to affirm or develop performance.

 It is as much about reinforcing effective and strong performance as it is about identifying areas of potential improvement.





Incident

Notice it

Repeated Incident

Give feedback Pattern

Initiate a conversation

Relationship

#### The BEDS Feedback Model

Behaviour - name the issue and describe the behaviour in a non judgemental way

**Effect**- describe clearly the effect or impact that the behaviour is having. If positive, thank and close

Discuss - clarify what is at stake, indicate your wish to resolve it and invite a response

Solution - agree a way forward



# Questions to open the discussion:

- Can you say a little more about how you see things?
- How is that affecting you?
- What are you thinking?
- What do you want to happen?
- Tell me how you see the situation.
- What is your perspective on this?
- How do you feel about what I have just said?
- How can we prevent this from happening again?
- What are the barriers to us achieving this?
- How do you feel we can move forward from here?
- What options do you think are open to us in this situation?

 You have just attended a meeting that was really well chaired - the agenda was long but the chairperson managed to keep to time whilst still ensuring that everyone had an opportunity to speak. All the items ended with clear recorded actions and you felt the meeting was a really good use of time (unlike many you attend!). You would like to tell Suzanne (the chair) how well you thought she managed the meeting.

 You have just observed Samir, who is a member of your team, giving a presentation. His PowerPoint slides had a lot of text on them and he read from the slides for the majority of the presentation which meant he rarely made eye contact with the audience. He sounded quite hesitant and appeared to lack confidence in what he was saying.

- Are the right communication channels in place?
- Do we tell people how the department communicates?
- Choosing the most appropriate method of communication.
- Using the methods appropriately.
- Assessing our capacity to influence.
- Exploring the perspectives of others questioning and listening.
- Behaving congruently.
- Giving constructive feedback.