

The Use of Visuals

You will have received a Visual timetable in your child's home learning pack. Visual supports can be used by an adult to help their child understand their environment. Below are some important reasons why you should use visuals with your children:

- Children tend to be visual learners and respond best to visual cues
- They are part of everyone's communication system
- They attract and hold a child's attention
- They encourage the child to focus on the message and what you want them to do
- Using pictures/objects are more concrete and permanent than just words alone
- Helps the child to understand routines and what is going to happen next
- They help adult's to be consistent with their own words & messages
- It can help reduce anxiety and calm the child

You can follow a routine/timetable at home when using visual timetables. The visual timetable should be placed in an area where your child can see it clearly. This can be anywhere in your house that your child may use often (Kitchen/living room) The timetable should be placed in a vertical line, with activities placed from top to bottom. This will give visual support to your children when understanding what is required of them throughout the day.



Traffic Light Visuals

- ▶ **RED** disc: show this to your child when you want them to 'finish' an activity or 'stop' doing something.
- ▶ **YELLOW** disc: show this to your child to 'warn' them that an activity is going to stop (e.g. 'one more minute then park is finished') or to help them wait.
- ▶ **GREEN** disc: show this to your child to reward positive behaviour: 'good work' 'well done' 'excellent'.

