

Information Sheet

Visual Supports

Communication Prompt Card

A Communication Prompt Card is used to support a child with communication. It shows visually what activities a child has attended to during the day. This can be used later, to prompt the child to communicate. However, it is important to remember that there is no expectation for the child to communicate verbally.

The activities the adult will choose to add to the red side, must be child-initiated activities that the child would normally access. These activities are not adult-led.

Start off with just one activity and then increase over time. The total number of activities you add will depend on the child's willingness to communicate.

For example:



Add an envelope to the back, to keep the cards in, when they are not being used.

How to use:

1. An adult will add the relevant card(s) to the red side - the stop side - these activities must be available.
2. When the child has accessed an activity, the adult will model moving the card over to the green side - the go side. In time, the child may choose to do this more independently.
3. Near the end of the day, either in a small group or on a one to one basis, the Communication Prompt Card is used to remind the child of some of the activities that they attended to during the day.
4. To start with, an adult would point to a card on the green side and say, for example, "You did a puzzle?" and the reply from the child may be fleeting eye contact, or a nod of the head, or maybe a simple, "Yes". The adult would acknowledge this by using a similar amount of words, for example, a smile, or "Wow", "Good", "Well done", etc.

The amount of language used is always led by the child.

If the child doesn't give any reaction, consider coming back to it another day.

Once the Communication Prompt Card is having some success within the setting, consider sending it home with the child to share with parents/carers.