



Interventions at St James' Infant and Nursery School

Visual Timetables

How it works



Visual supports can be used to communicate with pupils on the autism spectrum. They are adaptable, portable and can be used in most situations.

Visual supports can help to provide structure and routine, encourage independence, build confidence, improve understanding, avoid frustration and anxiety, and provide opportunities to interact with others. They can make communication physical and consistent, rather than fleeting and inconsistent like spoken words can be.

Types of visual support that we use at St James'

- tactile symbols/objects of reference, eg swimming trunks, packaging, food labels
- photographs
- pictures from the internet

Uses of visual supports

Visual supports can be used in a range of ways, eg:

- as a single message, eg the pupil takes a yellow card from their pocket when they need to go to the toilet, or a puts purple card on the board when they're feeling stressed
- in combination to create a daily timetable, schedule, sequence or reward chart
- to make a choice, eg the person can put the computer symbol in the 'afternoon' area of the board.