

Introducing Visual Supports Top Tips



Published December 2025

Get the level right

Objects are easier to
 understand than symbols.
 Use visuals at your child's
 level.

Demonstrate

It is important your child sees visuals being used.

Be consistent

Use visuals every time, for example using a reminder to put coat on, use it every time.

Sharing with school or nursery

Use the same symbols or objects at home as nursery/school.

All communication is good

- Accept visuals are a valid communication method.
- Never force your child to communicate or withholdyour child's favourite things.

Take things slowly

- Try introducing one type of visual, in one situation to start off with.
- Go at your child's pace.

Be realistic

Use what you have available for ease e.g. show shoes before going outside, use pictures on phone when out and about.

Make visuals available

Have visuals where yourchild can see them.

Keep trying!

It takes time to understand visual supports, give them time and lots of practice.

