

Handy Tips for Using Choice Boards

Do use this resource for all children who might find communicating their choices difficult. This might include:

- Children with social communication difficulties
- Children with high levels of anxiety
- Children with English as an additional language
- Children who are overwhelmed with the choices available in a classroom or setting
- Children who find transitions between activities difficult

Do persevere. It might take some time for the child to become familiar with and understand this method of communication.

Do make sure that all of the choices you have presented to a child are available to them.

Do come down to the child's level when using this resource.

Do laminate and velcro the resources so that they last. This will save you lots of time in the long run!

Do reduce your language. Try to keep any prompts as non-verbal ones that can gradually be withdrawn.

Do reduce or increase the number of choices available to the child according to the stage they are at developmentally.

Do use in a variety of situations and scenarios. Choice boards are not just to support with choosing activities. For example, they could be used to choose snack or lunch items, places, colours and people.

Do support the child you are working with to access the choice they have made.

Without this support you will observe that some of these children might fail to settle to play or learning and potentially can become disruptive or distressed.