

How to use Pictures of Reference

Pictures can be used to represent an activity or event. Over time, the child will learn that the picture (or photograph) represents that activity or event.

How to choose the pictures



Select the activity or event you want the child to understand

Choose a picture or photograph to represent the activity or event. E.g. a photo of the climbing frame in your outdoor area

It's best to choose 3 or 4 events that happen frequently

How to use the pictures

Just before the activity/event, show the child the picture. Use speech or a sign alongside this (e.g. 'sensory room time')

It's very important that the activity/event begins as soon as the picture has been shown

Make sure all staff members are consistently using the pictures with the child



Please note - if a child has involvement from SALT, you should discuss with them whether the child requires pictures or photographs

You could also support the child's family to implement this strategy at home