

# How to Use Asking for Help Visuals

Lots of children have difficulties asking for help when they have not understood. There are lots of ways to support your child to develop this skill. Some of these require practise in their everyday environments. Here are a few ideas.

Start perhaps with 'I need help' card/ symbol, this or similar:



Where to have the 'help' cards – we need to have one:

- In child's pocket keep one in yours for modelling
- Places your child is likely to need to ask for help (blue tac)
- In your child's communication books

2) How to teach to use the help card:

Start by modelling the card/ symbol as often as we can in everyday situations. When modelling point to the card/ symbol say 'need help'

When modelled and your child is aware of the card set up situations where your child will need to ask for help:

- Getting dressed
  - Opening a packet of crisps /food
  - Something your child likes in sight but out of reach on a high shelf
  - 'Sabotaged' equipment (e.g. pencil with a broken point)
  - Nothing that is going to make the child too upset
  - Something they likes (toy?) in clear container they can't open
- Adult to prompt child to exchange or point to the card/symbol (if they do not use the card still model respond saying "you need help" (stressing the word help) and showing the symbol
  - Immediately offers help needed. Return card.
  - Repeat
  - Gradually fade prompts
  - Try in different locations with a few different people
  - Make sure card always available.

*For support contact your child's speech and language therapist for information and support using this strategy*

I need help



I need help



I need help



help



help



Core Vocabulary / Commenting Chart

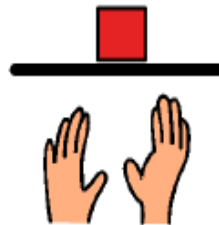
more, again



help



want



like



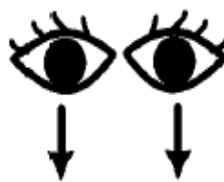
stop, finished



different



look



don't like

