

## Visual Timelines/ Timetables

### What is a visual timeline?

A visual timeline or timetable is a way of helping children understand what they will be doing over a period of time e.g. a morning nursery session. The information is displayed in a form that the child best understands e.g. objects, photographs, symbols, written text



### What are the benefits of using them?

Visual timelines can support a child's learning and development in a number of ways:

- Supporting the child's understanding of spoken language- allowing more time to process and offering additional concrete support/ clues from a 'visual' form reinforces the message/ information
- Accessible to children who may be learning English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- Provides emotional support- Helps to alleviate any anxiety/ uncertainty that a child may be feeling by providing reassurance and certainty through a clear structure which the child can follow
- They can be adapted to suit the individual learner's age/ ability, reflecting learning preferences in the way the information is conveyed and also the amount of information that is shown at any one time
- Promote independence and support self-confidence



### Remember:

- Make them **Portable** (Place in clear folder so it can be transported about as needed)
- **Durability** (Make them last, protect by laminating or placing in clear folder)
- **Personalisation** (Tailor to the needs, age, ability and interests of the child, where possible)

**Links to EYFS:** Communication & Language, Personal Social & Emotional Development, Cross-curricular links

**SEND Code of Practice:** Communication & Interaction, Cognition & Learning, Social Emotional & Mental Health

### Using timelines at home:

Can be used to break everyday tasks/ routines into smaller steps where the child follows a visual sequence of photographs until the task is complete e.g. brushing teeth, getting ready for bed

