

Troubleshooting

If child grabs for item or food then trainer can hold item in their free hand. Make sure you have your other hand ready to receive the picture.

Make sure child knows what is available to them by showing them the item.

As soon as the picture is exchanged the communicative partner says: "biscuit", and turns the picture to show the child.

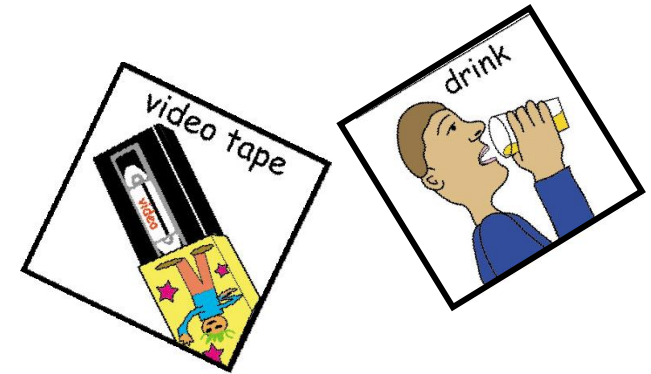
Communicative partner needs to:

- ♦ Show open hand as soon as child reaches for item or picture.
- ♦ Give the item immediately after the exchange.

Contact name:

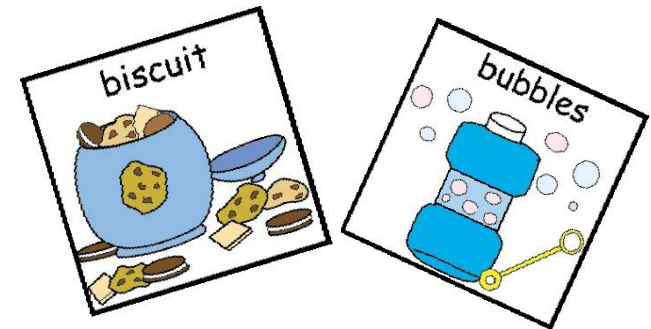
Contact telephone number:

Contact e-mail address:



Picture Exchange communication System (PECS)

Phase 1



This leaflet has been produced by the Early Years SEN Inclusion Teachers (01865 456722).

Revised: 5/11/2013. Saved in:
H:FRAMEWORK/Resources/Autism/ASC/20131105PhaseOnePECS/leaflet.

Children using PECS are taught to approach and give a picture of a desired item to a partner in exchange for that item.

PECS supports a child to communicate to another person.

Phase 1:

On seeing an item that he / she wants, child will pick up a picture, reach and release it into the hand of the trainer, in exchange for that item.

How to achieve this:

Have ready 2 or 3 preferred items and corresponding cards.

Child and 2 trainers in common area, on floor, or child at table.

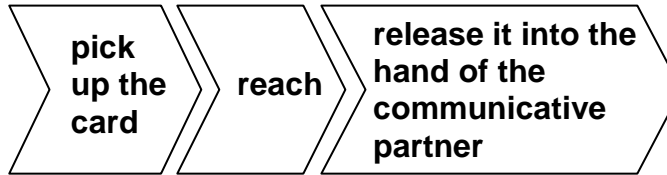
One trainer (Communicative Partner) in front of the child.

Other trainer (Physical Prompter) is behind or to the side of child.

A highly preferred item is held by the communicative partner, but out of reach of the child.

The picture of the item is on the floor next to the child or on the table by the child.

Be Ready! As the child reaches for the preferred item the physical prompter helps the child to



As the **reach** starts, the communicative partner gives an **OPEN HAND CUE**.



Remember!

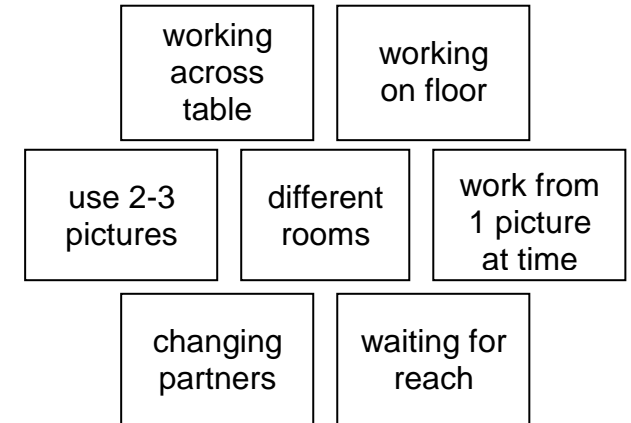
- The child is not asked 'What do you want' or 'Pick up the card'.
- The communicative partner can show and therefore entice.
- The physical prompter stays silent and ready to help with the exchange.
- Try to do 20-30 exchanges throughout a day.
- Use different types of reinforcers, eg food / toys etc.
- Work from one picture at a time, therefore child at this phase is not expected to discriminate between pictures.



WAIT FOR THE CHILD TO REACH FOR THE ITEM – THIS IS THE CHILD'S INITIATION.

- The Communicative Partner opens her hand to receive the picture **ONLY AFTER** the child has reached.

Phase One needs to include:



Remember!

- Tempt the child with favourite toys or food by putting it close to them.
- Resist the temptation to say, "Do you want ...?"
- Wait for the child to REACH for it and then help them pick up the picture.

