

Positive Language Scripts

Ensure all praise is given with explicit reference to the behaviour: well done (NAME) you followed instructions / I saw you being kind, helpful, resilient / you are working independently use the child's name as often as possible to link 'good' behaviour to them. Try to 'notice' 50-100 times per day!

Ensure all warnings are given with explicit reference to the behaviour rule that is being broken: that's a warning for, that's a second warning for, you've lost a minute for Quite often warnings can all come under the rule of *not following instructions*

When a child is seeking/needing attention in an *inappropriate* way: notice, validate, remind and move away: "(NAME) I think you are looking for me to give you some attention, I can see you want that, remember to put up your hand/sit quietly/make a good choice and then I will give you my attention" – move away, wait for appropriate response, then attend

Use 'Promise' card if it is inconvenient to give attention at certain times. Give a 'promise card' to provide security that you will attend to them when you can.

Always tell a child what you want them to do rather than what you don't want them to do, followed by 'thank you': Walk, thank you (rather than 'stop running'), Keep your hands to yourself, thank you (rather than 'stop hitting'), It's time to listen, thank you (rather than 'stop talking')

Avoid saying 'no' (unless you absolutely have no choice): yes, you can when you have