

Sensory Bag

Purpose

A way of gaining the child or young person's views, who are non-verbal, to identify motivators for engaging children in learning experiences.

Talking Pictures

Sensory bag

Age range

Pupils who are non-verbal from Early Years onwards.

Children in Early Years

Resources

An appealing bag containing items that adults feel the child or young person may like and some that they are not sure of e.g. cars, little people, tinfoil, bubble wrap. Try and include items with a range of textures or make noises.

Instructions for use:

The child or young person is presented with the range of objects placed in the bag in turn. It is then recorded which activities they wanted to play with and those that were rejected. This could be supplemented alongside other information such as photographs of the areas of provision children most like to play in etc.

Taking note of the items the child or young person wants to play with will support with identifying motivators for learning and will inform planning for further activities or engaging learning experiences. For example, sorting activities could be based on using the coins with specific letters or numbers on them.

The information gained regarding the pupil's motivators for engaging in learning can also be feed into the review stage of the graduated approach and be included within ISAR reviews, EHC plan reviews or linked to the pupil's Individual Provision Map (IPM).

Example:



Object	Played with – yes /no
Truck	Yes
Teddy Bear	Yes
Bricks	No
Coins	Yes
Penguin	No
Russian Doll	No
Bracelet	No
Kiwi	No
Plastic bubble wrap	No
Aluminium foil	No
Sequined material	Yes