

SEN Early Years Inclusion Service

How to use a Turn Taking Card



Turn Taking Card Explained

A Turn Taking Card is a visual way to introduce taking turns with others to your child.

In this section, we have given you some ideas that you can use or adapt to suit your situation. Making a Turn Taking Card

- Print out the card
- Laminate the card if possible to strengthen it
- Cut the card to size



Using a Turn Taking Card

This skill has to be taught to your child.

Firstly, turn taking should be introduced with your child with one adult. Once the child is successfully taking turns with one adult then another person such as a sibling can be introduced in turn taking games. At first when introducing turn taking games/activities should be short and only require a couple of turn taking exchanges e.g. 'my turn to roll the ball, your turn to roll the ball, my turn to roll the ball, your turn to roll the ball, game over.' The length of games/activities can gradually be increased as your child starts taking turns.

To support turn taking visually use the card. When your child has the card, it is their turn, when you have the card, it is your turn.

When playing games/activities get down to your child's eye level, show them the card and explain 'when you have this card it is your turn'. Give the child the card, explain 'your turn' and encourage them to engage in activity. Then say, 'all done', take the card, say 'my turn' and you can have a turn. Then give the card back to the child etc.

