**Using Visuals in your Setting**

**Visuals are:**

• objects, photographs, pictures or symbols

• used with children at the same time of saying the associated word

• a visual reminder of the spoken message - visuals are constant and can be looked at many times whereas the spoken word quickly disappears

**Visuals can be used for:**

• all children

• children who are at risk of delay in communication development

• supporting listening and attention skills

• offering independence and choices

• supporting daily routines for **all** children or for individual children e.g. mealtimes, washing hands, timetables, lesson plans

**Visuals can also:**

• help reduce frustration for a child

• help a child to understand communication & learn new words

• help adults to use short, simple phrases

• help children understand expectations in a positive way

**Remember:**

• be consistent in the choice and use of visuals

• think about the size & position of visuals

• small steps can make a significant difference

• children need time to use visuals in everyday practice