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# Different communication techniques: Using Key Word Sign

Video audio transcription



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Working together on positive  
behaviour support (PBS)

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## Different communication techniques: Using Key Word Sign



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A helpful tool for communicating with some people is Key Word Sign.

Key Word Sign can be helpful for people such as those who have limited speech or people who benefit from emphasis and slower speaking.

It's really there to add to the conversation and help, providing an extra layer of communication, adding visual emphasis to help people. The

point isn't to teach people 'to Sign', but if this technique is helpful for you, you can learn Signs that help both of you communicate more clearly.

For example, research shows that Key Word Sign can help you focus on every word – which leads to simpler sentences and plain language; speak more slowly – because you're also signing; emphasise important words or concepts... and that makes your communication clearer.

Now on our website we have two Key Word Sign documents, each with diagrams and descriptions to help you Sign.

Here's a couple of Signs that I've picked up in just a short time.

'Learn'. 'Yes'. 'No'. 'Sad'. 'Understand'. 'Good'.

Pick the ones that work best for you and your participant and use those to strengthen your communication.

### **Closing credits** (text presented on screen)

How will you use these ideas to improve engagement in your behaviour support practice?

Web address: [therightdirectionpbs.com](http://therightdirectionpbs.com)



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