

Giving Instructions

- Where possible, let child finish what they are doing, or wait for a break in their activity before giving the child an instruction to follow.



- BUT if it is a problem behaviour you want them to stop, act immediately.



When you give the instruction:

- Stop what you are doing, move close to the child
- Get their eye contact (if possible) and use their name to get their attention



- In a calm voice, say exactly what you want the child to do e.g. "Sam, come up to bed now please."

CALM

- If you are telling the child to stop doing something, be sure to tell them what to do instead e.g. "Sam, stop hitting Molly - keep your hands and feet to yourself."

Give direction



- Wait about 5 seconds to give the child time to start to do what you have asked.



- If the child does as you ask, PRAISE them

Fantastic! Well Done 

- If the child does not follow the instruction:
if telling the child to start doing something,
repeat your instruction **ONCE ONLY**

if telling the child to stop doing something,
do not repeat the instruction



- If the child does not co-operate, back up your instruction with a consequence.

