

Reminders for Practitioners on Positive Language

When there is no choice and a child needs to follow an instruction

DON'T USE

Can you ...?
Would you like to ...?
Please will you ...?

USE

I need you to ...
It's time to ...
You need to ...

Basic and simple language when giving instruction

DON'T USE

No!
Don't

USE

Stop Look
Back Wait

Follow instructions with what you want them to do

DON'T USE

Don't run/no running

USE

Good walking

Setting a rule

DON'T USE

No!
Don't do ...

USE

Not allowed

Helping children deal with difficult situations the 'No Blame Way'

DON'T USE

What did you do ...?
Why did you do ...?

USE

What's the matter?
What's the problem?
I can help