

Sharing news – Guidelines for use with individuals or groups of people with a learning disability

Materials needed (all image files can be downloaded from the website):

- Wall space or board
- Blue/white tack or drawing pins, pens
- Photos or drawings of people, names (in members' colours)
- Speech balloons (can be printed on A4 or A3 size paper)
- Emotion cards (optional) (in members' colours)

General principles:

- Everybody chooses a card colour, which is their colour for all activities.
- For people with colour-blindness, their name or initials should be written on the cards, or a small photo of them can be glued in the middle of the cards. For people with no vision, thicker cards should be used.
- If the activities in the toolkit are regularly used by a group, they become a shared language that everyone can learn to use and understand.

How to use the materials:

1. A photo or drawing of everyone with their name should be placed on a wall or white/pin-board.
2. Draw a large speech balloon, or put one or more SPEECH BALLOON cards next to each photo/picture.
3. Everyone writes, draws, or glues a picture of something they want other people to know about (e.g., an achievement, a hobby they enjoy, a special person they have met, news about a family member) in the speech balloons.
4. Emotion cards can be put by the pictures if people want to share their feelings. These can be updated weekly or daily, perhaps as part of a regular activity (see 'Expressing emotions' activity).

If you have used any of the activities, please help us to continue developing our toolkit by filling in our short survey on the website, or by emailing Lisa El Refaie (RefaieEE@cf.ac.uk) with your feedback/suggestions.