**Guidance for Core Offer Resources**

**Timetable Symbols**

To be displayed in every classroom, all symbols that have been chosen have a language through colour boarder.

**Now and Next board**

A ‘Now and Next’ board is a strategy that can be used to visually communicate instructions or expectations to a child. Now and Next boards can help alleviate anxiety related to transitions or changes in routines.

The board consists of two sections; what the child is asked to do ‘now’ and then what the child can ‘next’ do once they have completed the first activity.

Both activities are represented visually either through the use of objects of reference, photos, pictures or symbols. Begin by using two preferred activities. Then, a less preferred followed by a preferred. Use frequently and consistently so that the child understands.

**Green and Red board**

A ‘Green and Red’ board is a strategy that can be used to visually communicate a sequence of activities and support with turn taking. This resource can include more symbols than a now and next board and the student can see the order of activities and when these are due to finish.

The symbols are initially placed on the green side to signify the start of the activity. When the activity has finished the symbol is moved to the red side to signify that the activity has finished. When moving the symbols explain that ‘x has finished, it is now y’.

**Core Vocabulary board**

This is a new board to be displayed in all classrooms, it is very similar to our core page that you will find in our Claire Latham stage 3 communication books. Please see attached handout entitled ‘Getting Started with Core Words’.

**Communication boards**

We have included two templates. These can be used alongside the core vocabulary board and core vocabulary included within our communication books. The aim of a communication board is to communicate rich ideas and teach vocabulary, not necessarily for sentence construction. We use a 10 or 20 cell template and these are included in this core offer pack. It is important to remember that communication boards are designed and made with the individual child in mind, therefore sometimes it may be appropriate for less or more cells. When we make communication boards we ensure there is a variety of vocabulary, e.g. core vocabulary, nouns, verbs and adjectives etc. We keep the child at the centre when designing a communication board.

If you choose to design your own boards, please use the following guidance:

* Decide how many cells would be appropriate for the child/group of children.
* Use the 10 or 20 cell template if appropriate
* Include the topic title
* All symbols to be Widgit, with a Language Through Colour border.
* FS Me font to be used in Communicate In Print.
* If using core vocabulary, keep this to the left hand side of the board.