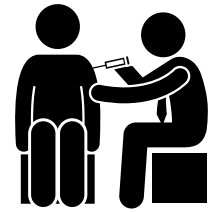


top tips for vaccinations
for health workers &
parent/carers

TOP TIPS FOR VACCINATIONS



COMMUNICATE...

Check if there is information around the child's needs and best approach that has been shared in advance by the parent carer. If not, it's ok to ask if there's anything that you need to know, this can be covered during the initial baseline safety checks.



GREETING...

Say hello and give your name too. Some children will be chatty, but others are quieter and some may not be able to verbally communicate. But be assured that our children are always listening and their understanding may be more than their communications suggest!



BEING AROUND OUR CHILDREN...

Being around our children - Follow our lead. We'll show you how to 'be' around our child. If we stay calm, it really helps our child. So it's best if a child is hearing just one voice at a time. Listen to how we talk to our child - use the same levels of language - we'll show you if language needs to be more simplified, otherwise please use appropriate conversation. A warm but low key tone of voice is usually the best.



INVITATIONS NOT INSTRUCTIONS...

Some children may be 'demand avoidant' so invite our children rather than direct them. "Shall we go this way" rather than "Follow me".



IF THINGS GET REALLY TRICKY...

If we, as Parent Carers say that this isn't working, or ask you to stop, please respect this and stop immediately. For some of the children you'll be meeting over the coming weeks, medical interventions and past experiences may have resulted in a high levels of anxiety or trauma. Parents & carers must weigh up how far to go within a child's safe physical and emotional thresholds. This is especially important as we will be returning for a follow up vaccination or our child may need essential interventions to manage their ongoing medical needs.



GENTLE & PATIENT...

Please don't rush us, as this is more likely to induce further anxiety for us as well as our children! Some of us may already be feeling levels of anxiety about whether we're going to be able to get the vaccination done successfully. Getting to you may already have been a logistical challenge.



IF THINGS GET TRICKY...

Pause - give some space for us to rethink. We may suggest a slight tweak to what's going on, so that the job can be done.



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