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 instructions

**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