



# Now and Next boards



Now and Next boards are a great resource for showing students what they need to be doing and preparing them for what will be happening next. Now and next boards use symbols to show students various activities to help engage them in any activity or task. Language is important when using now and next board for them to be successful. Now and next boards are a visual aid to help encourage and motivate students.

## Step 1

If you have more than one student in one class using now and next boards, each will need a different colour board to make it clear to each student that they have their own.

## Step 2

Decide what symbols you will need throughout the day for the Now and Next board to be successful. This should be limited for example a symbol for lesson rather than a symbol for each individual subject.

## Step 3

The symbols can either be on a wall, in a wallet or you can velcro them to the back of the Now and Next board.

## Step 4

Use the board and keep language limited when using it. We need to make it clear to the student what we are asking them to do.

Example: "Now is workstation next is choose"

When a student has finished or completed a task show them using the Now and Next Board. Sometimes students benefit from seeing you remove the symbol to understand it has finished.

Example: "1:1 has now finished now is choose next is home".



## Tips

- Don't just think about lessons and breaks when making symbols remember to include things like rewards or choose or what you would need them to do if they are not following instructions.
- Ensure all staff working with the student are aware of their Now and Next board and are using similar language.

