

Guide to using the Family Mentoring Resources for children with disabilities

These resources for use with children with disabilities are similar to the original resources developed by VIVA for children without disabilities. There have been adaptations/variations made to enable a child with learning disabilities to engage with the programme. These adaptations are in red text in boxes below the original instruction/activity. For some sections there are a few adaptation options that you can choose from depending on the needs of the child whom you are speaking to.

These resources will not be suitable for every child with a learning disability, a list of disabilities that this resource may not be suitable for is provided in the introduction call script. This list is not exhaustive as every child is an individual and will engage differently depending on their character, their emotions and how their disability affects them. Please also take into consideration the context that the family is in and adapt the examples, games etc. to be most suitable to that context. Read through each script before you begin the conversation, and think through which suggestions and ideas will be appropriate for the children and families you are working with.

Each call script has visual aids that have been saved as separate PDFs so that they can be easily sent to parents via WhatsApp or email before the call. Some call scripts refer to videos/resources that are not part of the original VIVA resources. All of the links are found at the bottom of that call scripts. These can be sent to parents in advance or in follow up to the call, however you think will work best for you and the family you are mentoring.

For children with learning disabilities it is preferable that the calls are carried out through a video call rather than an ordinary phone call although we are aware that this might not always be possible.

We hope that you enjoy using the resources and if you have any questions or feedback about them we would love to hear from you.