



## CREATING A SUCCESSFUL SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAMMES

For many students with an ASD their biggest challenges are their interaction, friendships and understanding emotions. Social skills is an ongoing process, each age group has new learning's. Think about a young child – their social skills may be turning taking and sharing, by secondary it is catching public transport, sexuality and more. Each stage needs different supports and information.

### Social Skills Includes:

- **Interaction with other people:** Greetings, Comments, Manners, Social Rules
- **Emotions:** Understanding own emotions through to understanding others
- **Friendship:** Taking turns, sharing, playing through to making friends and being a friend

### Easy Ways To Include Social Skills In Your Everyday Activities with Social Skills Enriched Environments:

Trying to fit social skills activities into an already busy day is always a challenge. The easiest way is to do this is select a goal, for example "waiting" and teach across a range of daily events rather than trying to create time for specific lessons. (See below grid for ideas, these are just a few to get you started).

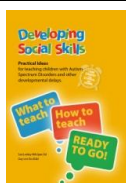
Select one goal and do it for a week. For example "waiting" The tricky part is "waiting" can look different in each 'daily event' so you may need to 'teach' a variety of different types of 'waiting'. Ideas for goals include: personal space, eye contact, waiting quietly, complimenting another child, ask questions, responding to questions, sharing, waiting, asking to join in a game, conversations, etc.

Daily Event	Social Skill: Waiting!	Social Skill: How to react when someone says "NO"
Lining Up	For the teacher in line	"No, you can't be my partner" Reaction: "okay", ask someone else
Pack Away Time	For a turn to put activity on shelf etc	"No you can't help them pack away" Reaction "okay", find someone else to help
Mat Time	For the teacher to give instructions	"No you can't sit next to them" Reaction: move somewhere else
Desk Time	For teacher to help you	"No you can't be my partner" Reaction: Ask the teacher to find you a partner
Playground	For a turn at an activity	"No you can't play" Reaction: "okay", ask someone else
Home	For parent to be ready to get something you want	"No you can't have chips" Reaction: "okay Mum"

### Recommended Resources (available online at [www.suelarkey.com](http://www.suelarkey.com)):

#### Developing Social Skills

By Sue Larkey and  
Gay von Ess



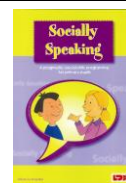
#### Teacher Assistants Big

Blue Book of Ideas  
By Sue Larkey and  
Anna Tullemans



#### Socially Speaking

By Alison Schroeder



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[www.suelarkey.com](http://www.suelarkey.com)