PARENTS & GUARDIANS | CONVERSATION PROMPTS

Notice, listen, agree a small next step

A calm structure for an everyday conversation with your child.

USE THIS RESOURCE

These are general communication prompts, not an assessment, treatment or a way to interpret marks as a diagnosis. Use your usual professional or school support routes for concerns that need them.

Reflect first

1. What have I actually noticed, rather than assumed?
2. Am I ready to listen without turning the conversation into a report-card review?
3. What choice can I give my child about when and how we talk?

Open without a label

Try a concrete observation: “I noticed you have not wanted to join that activity lately. How has it been for you?” Leave space for an answer, including “not now”. Avoid deciding in advance what the change means.

Your working notes

Keep this copy for your use. Do not add private cases to shared programme materials.

PARENTS & GUARDIANS | CONTINUED

Notice, listen, agree a small next step

Listen for the next practical step

1. “What part feels most difficult?”
2. “What is helping, even a little?”
3. “Would you like me to listen, help with something practical, or help you speak with someone?”
4. “Is there someone at school you would feel comfortable approaching?”

Agree one thing

Choose a manageable next step together: another conversation, a practical adjustment you can make, or contacting the appropriate school adult. Explain any action you need to take to protect safety. Do not promise secrecy you cannot keep.

Return to the conversation

Agree when to check back. A conversation is a beginning; it does not establish the cause of a difficulty or guarantee that it will resolve.

KEEP IN VIEW

Keep the focus on understanding and an appropriate next step. Do not post personal details in a school group or website enquiry.

One next step to take

Keep this copy for your use. Do not add private cases to shared programme materials.

Read this guide online

https://behindthemarks.org/resources/parent-listening-check

Programme enquiries: tapiwa@nojobsjustwork.com

Resources are free to use. An enquiry creates no obligation to purchase or participate. Keep personal cases out of programme enquiries.