

Takes items from other children

Strong, warm, and supportive relationships with adults enable children to understand their own feelings and those of others. Through adult modelling, guidance and support they will be able to make good friendships, cooperate with one another and resolve conflict.

Typical development

3 to 4 year olds will be learning to:

How can practitioners support children to share?

- Do children have a safe place to store items from home? E.g. their own drawer/peg, that the adult will support them to understand is theirs to use, developing a sense of ownership.
- Does your setting offer a Total Communication Environment?
- Consider if you are consistent in your approach with all children, do adults follow through on request to share an object or activity?
- Do you have more than one popular resource e.g. ride on cars outside or scoops in the sandpit.

Activity ideas/resources

- Model with clear language how to request, 'I would like a turn with ...'
- Model the use of sand timers to clearly show children how long they have to play before 'sharing' with another child.
- Follow through with sand timers so that the next child also has a go.
- You could use other visuals to support children to independently take their turn, using photographs of children to put on a timeline while they are waiting
- Adults can model sharing by playing with a favourite toy and shaping the child's ability to share using 'my turn' taking your go then 'your turn' giving them the object to have their go.
- Consider asking curious questions to parents to find out about how the child is at home and if there are any changes or challenges that may impact them.

Useful links

<https://www.annafreud.org/early-years/early-years-in-mind/common-difficulties/>