

Staff Guidance on Noel

	Key Area	Strategy
1	Structured and Predictable School Day	Noel uses symbols and structured phrases to understand and reflect upon his understanding of the transition to lunch.
2	Identifiable Units	Noel begins with the phrase 'nearly lunchtime' and the lunchtime symbol is put on display on the interactive whiteboard communicating to the group to finish activity and sit at the table.
3	Communicating Movement between Units	The group sits together at the table, do a number activity about going to lunch, then leave in numerical order. Use short phrase reminders and praise to remind Noel where he is going. At the end they leave the hall together and return to the classroom.
4	Communicating Unexpected change to Units	Noel needs to be spoken to calmly using clear repeated phrases to communicate what has changed and what will now be happening. Staff should remain close to him, but not hold him, as he adjusts to the change.
5	Safe and Secure Environment	Ensure he is able to sit at the corner table, go for more food and leave as part of a small group.
6	Proactive in Containment	Use reminders, be consistent and use praise. Watch out for HIS signs of growing anxiety and if necessary start to use rhythmic phrases and questioning to engage him.
7	Get out with Dignity	To avoid a confrontation, offer a choice to Noel using two symbols, e.g. one relevant to lunch and one neutral.
8	Positive Relationships	Staff should always respond to Noel's greeting to avoid any growing anxiety. Noel responds best to reminders of what he should be doing, e.g. 'What time is it...', 'Where are we going...', 'What are you doing now...', etc.
9	Consistent Behaviour	Noel should be reminded about waiting, walking, using his words and clearing his table.
10	Alternative Strategies	Number songs and games help distract and calm Noel to re-focus him. He can then be reminded what is happening by using symbols and short key phrases.