



Portage Workshop

A Small Steps Approach to Learning

Participant Handbook

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	2
THE PORTAGE MODEL	4
SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF PLAY	19
USING CLEAR LANGUAGE	29
PLANNING SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES	36
RECORDING AND SHARING CHILDREN'S PLANS	44
SMALL STEPS APPROACH	54
POSITIVE APPROACHES TO CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOUR	67

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Portage Workshop: *A Small Steps Approach to Learning*.

We hope that this workshop will help you to extend your knowledge and skills in working with young children and their families. This manual contains the key information that will be covered in the Portage Workshop. It is intended to be used as a reference guide both during and after the workshop.

Content

This workshop contains modules on:

- The Portage Model
- Using Clear Language
- Planning for Success
- Small Steps Approach
- Examples of Planning, Recording and Sharing
- Supporting the Development of Play
- Positive Approaches to Children's Behaviour

The National Portage Association (NPA) sets the core curriculum of this Portage workshop. At least one member of the presenting team for this workshop is an accredited trainer with the National Portage Association.

Aims

In particular, you will:

- Develop knowledge of the Portage Principles and model of support
- Consider how the Portage model can be incorporated when working with children
- Analyse a range of materials and resources which may be useful when working with children
- Develop an understanding of the small steps approach to learning
- Understand why play is so important and consider how the development of play can be supported in children with SEND
- Develop an understanding of why some behaviours occur and how they can be changed

- Be confident to apply skills learned on the course in the workplace

Individual Assignment

As part of this workshop, there is an expectation that participants complete a short task on their own that is handed in to the trainer(s) for marking. This is to help trainers ensure that you have understood the teaching aims of the workshop and that you are able to apply them in your own work. The task is directly related to the activities covered during the workshop and the trainer(s) will ensure you have the opportunity to practise the necessary skills during the day. Individual feedback will be given.

To get the most from the workshop, we would like to encourage you to:

listen
actively participate in discussion
share your experiences
say if you do not understand
respect confidentiality
keep an open mind
respect others' views
say how we can support you
have fun!
