USING A VISUAL SCHEDULE WITH A STUDENT

WHAT is a visual schedule? A sequence of visual supports appropriate to the child’s level of understanding (e.g. objects, photos, pics or text).

WHY use a visual schedule?
- Builds independence.
- Creates structure and predictability.
- Helps the student understand and prepare for planned events.
- Provides information visually.

WHO? Everyone! Any person (teachers, education assistants, students) together with the student.

HOW?

General Hints for Using the Visual Schedule

- **Organized and ready**—set it up together, or adult sets it up while student watches
- **Available**—take schedule everywhere and have it visible at all times
- **Timely reference**—look at the schedule before AND after each activity
- **Interactive**—student is actively involved in making changes to the schedule and has enough time to process the information

Follow it or change it! Steps for Using

1. Gain attention
2. Reference activity using consistent vocabulary (e.g. first, then, finished, ready…) *Do activity*
3. Gain attention
4. Remove completed activity
5. Gain attention
6. Reference next activity *Do activity*