

# Speak Up and be Safe from Abuse Communication board Places - board 1 of 2

**Instructions** - This communication board set has a picture board, alphabet board, female and male body boards. Place the boards on a flat surface or hold where the person can see it/point to it. The person will point to pictures or letters. If the person cannot point - ask row by row, and then column by column, to find out the message. There is a place to draw/write on the alphabet boards. If you need more words, use the Speak Up and be Safe from Abuse Communication Book.

Bedroom

Kitchen

Lounge room

Bathroom

Dining room

Office

Other room

Inside

Outside

Garage

Park

Street

City

Beach

Country

School

Church

Hotel

Pub

Work

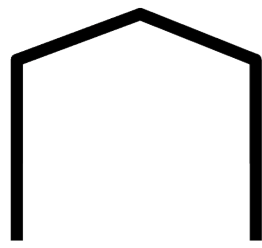
I'll spell it - show me the alphabet board

It's not on this board

Turn over

No

Yes



# Speak Up and be Safe from Abuse Communication board Places - board 2 of 2

**Instructions** - This communication board set has a picture board, alphabet board, female and male body boards. Place the boards on a flat surface or hold where the person can see it/point to it. The person will point to pictures or letters. If the person cannot point - ask row by row, and then column by column, to find out the message. There is a place to draw/write on the alphabet boards. If you need more words, use the Speak Up and be Safe from Abuse Communication Book.

Police station

Doctor's clinic

Hospital

Cinema

Bowling

Shopping centre

Disability service

Public transport

Car

Taxi

Communication Rights Australia

Centre Against Sexual Assault (CASA)

Office of the Public Advocate

Victorian Ombudsman

Home

Here

There

Online

Group home

Somewhere else

I'll spell it - show me the alphabet board

It's not on this board

Turn over

No

Yes

## How to use the boards

Place/hold the boards where I can see it/point to it.

**Direct access** - The person will turn the pages and point to the relevant pictures in these boards.

**Supported, direct access** – You turn the pages and the person points to the relevant pictures, letters, numbers and words in these boards.

### **Indirect access**

- Look where the person is looking on the boards.
- Ask the person row by row where the word is. When the person indicates “yes”, ask the person column by column where the message is.

Give the person extra time to answer questions.

If the person can spell, get the alphabet board (ABC or QWERTY). This may help with specific information, such as names.

### **How to start the conversation**

“I’ve noticed you...” (e.g. seem unhappy, not sleeping well, not eating) or “You asked to talk about something, what has happened?”  
Ask open-ended questions. For example, “What happened? / Tell me more”

Confirm with simple yes/no questions. “You told me – at home – is that correct”.

Summarise/repeat to check if you have understood correctly.

Speak in short sentences. Talk about one idea at a time.

If the person struggles to initiate, you may need to specifically ask for information from each set of the boards, e.g. Actions, places, people, etc. Only use this method if the person is unable to spontaneously provide the information

### **Offer support to the person**

“Do you feel safe?” “What can I do to help you feel safe?” “What would you like me to do next?”

### Record sheet

Use the Speak Up and be Safe from Abuse record sheet to record information about your conversation.

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Produced by Scope’s Communication & Inclusion Resource Centre 2016 [www.scopeaust.org.au](http://www.scopeaust.org.au)

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