

## Be Positive

### Why use positive language?

- It promotes a positive emotional environment, as it models and develops positive communication and social skills.
- Tells the child what we want rather than what we don't
- When we say what not to do that is often all the child hears
- Understanding of negative language develops later so child may not understand they are being told not to do something e.g. "don't run" becomes "run"

### Make these statements positive without changing the message:

Don't run!

"walk" "Walking inside" "walking feet" "Stop, walking inside"

Stop jumping around on the sofa!

Stop talking!

*You* aren't helping me tidy up, Ellie.

Don't throw the sand on the floor.

Don't snatch!

Stop banging your cup on the table, Daniel.