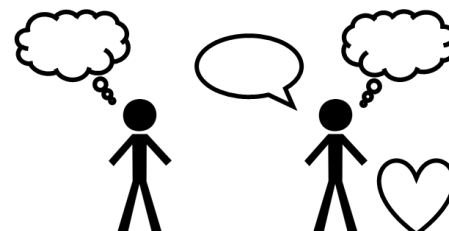


Visually supported conversations

What is a visually supported conversation?

- A visual representation of the different levels of communication that take place in a conversation.
- Visual information is provided through the use of **symbols, stick figure drawings and colour**.



Why use visually supported conversations?

- Some people can't process conversations quickly enough to understand them. Using visual support slows the conversation down allowing discussion of what was **said**, what emotions people were **feeling** and what they were **thinking**.
- A visual conversation helps students to understand the situation and then problem solve what went wrong (or plan what they would do next time in the same situation).
- Young people can reflect on their own thoughts and feelings which helps adults to understand where the conversation broke down or identify potential problems.
- Helps the young person identify where the misunderstanding occurred and what could have been said differently to achieve a different outcome.
- Recording the conversation visually means that the student can reflect on the conversation later, for example before a similar situation happens again.

How does it work ?

- You can use pen and paper or a whiteboard. The adult or the young person can do the drawing.



- Ask questions to work out what happened:

⇒ **Where** were you?

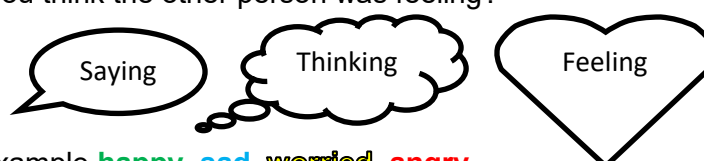
⇒ **Who** else was there?

⇒ **What** did you **do**? What did the other person do?

⇒ What were you **thinking**? What do you think the other person was thinking?

⇒ What were you **feeling**? What do you think the other person was feeling?

- Use symbols to show each area



- Use colours to show feelings, for example **happy**, **sad**, **worried**, **angry**

The comic strip conversation **user guide** can be found on our website in the professionals section of each age range under 'targeted interventions'. <https://www.bdct.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Comic-Strip-Conversations-User-Guide.pdf>