

Social Scripts Checklist

What is a Social Script?

A Social Script is a simple guide that helps people know what to expect before an event, program, or new experience.

Social Scripts are based on therapeutic resources called Social Stories™, first created for autistic children in schools. Over time, social scripts have been used more widely to successfully support adults and children with different disabilities and communication support needs in the community.

Social Scripts explain what will happen, what the space might feel like, and what people are expected to do. This helps reduce stress and builds confidence. When organisations provide social scripts, they support disability access and neuroinclusion.

Who benefits?

Many people can benefit from access to social scripts. When you provide clear information about a place, program or event ahead of time, you can support the inclusion of:

- ✓ autistic people
- ✓ people with learning disabilities
- ✓ people with intellectual disabilities
- ✓ people with communication support needs
- ✓ people with social or anxiety challenges.

How to create social scripts

We've prepared this short checklist to get you started. We are a team of people with lived experience of disability and speech pathologists. [Visit our website](#) for more information about how we can support your organisation through Social Script development projects and training.



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Plan your Social Script

Identify your target audience

State your purpose or 'call to action'

Write a descriptive title

Consider other formats your audience might need. E.g. Braille, Easy Read or audio.



Consider sensory sensitivities

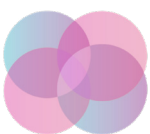
Touch (physical contact, product materials, texture of floors, hot/cold, wet/dry)

Sound (loud/quiet, background music, other people/children, echoes, unexpected sounds, weather, loud bells or announcements, sirens, machinery/vacuums, traffic)

Visual (fluorescent lights, bright lights, colour, patterns, mess/clutter, flashing lights, unexpected changes to a visual scene)

Movement (fast/slow, unexpected movement, visual changes, movement of fans and machinery, traffic)

Smell (foods, strong perfumes, candles, cleaning products, chlorine, meats, lack of fresh air or 'stuffiness')



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Use inclusive language

Use first or third person (“I am going to the pool” or “James is going to the pool”).

Include celebration and praise (“Going to the gym is lots of fun”, “It feels good to work as a team with other people”)

Describe desired behaviour (“I should not litter” becomes “I put my rubbish in the bin”)

Do **not** use second person voice (“You are going to the pool”)

Do **not** use forceful language (“Must/Must not”, “Should/Should not”, “Bad/Naughty”)

Do **not** highlight deficits (“I struggle when it’s loud” becomes “I like quiet places”)

Check and review

Who? You’ve highlighted relevant staff and other key people a reader might encounter.

What? You’ve described what your reader must do, and what will happen.

Where? You’ve described the environment, including key accessibility features.

When? You’ve stated specific time constraints, schedules or rules about time.

Why? You’ve explained why a behaviour or action is desirable, helpful or important.

How? You’ve applied gentle guidance to help the reader feel confident to participate.

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More support

Work with our talented disability-led team to produce high-quality, end-user tested Social Scripts for your next community engagement project.

- ✓ Speech Pathologist review ensuring best-practices for Social Scripts are followed.
- ✓ User-testing with Lived Experience Advisors for improved Social Script accessibility.
- ✓ Team Mentoring via 1:1 or small group consultations online and in-person.
- ✓ WCAG 2.2 Document Remediation ensuring Social Scripts are digitally accessible.

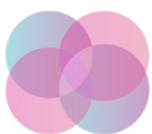


Making communication accessible

Accessibility is a journey, not a destination, and we're here to help.

We offer the following services to support you to become communication accessible:

- ✓ [Social Scripts](#)
- ✓ [Easy Read Translations](#)
- ✓ [Easy Read Training](#)
- ✓ [Communication Access Training](#)
- ✓ [Lived Experience Consultancy](#)
- ✓ [Communication Boards](#)



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