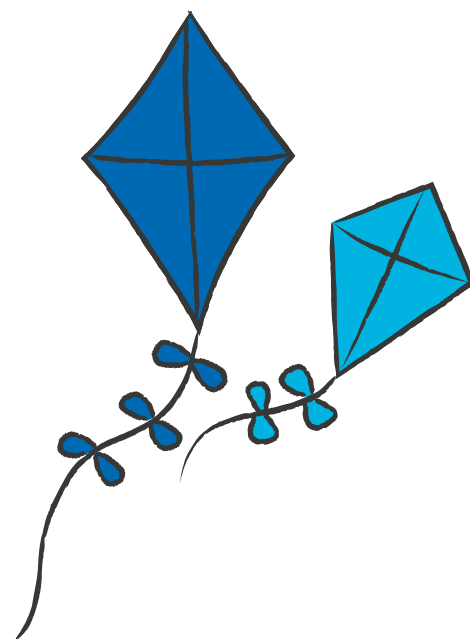# TASSELS, Tactile Signing for Sensory Learners

Welcome to TASSELS, Tactile Signing for Sensory Learners.

TASSELS is a means of communication for children with Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities (PMLD). This in an innovative approach combining touch and signing to empower sensory learners to connect and engage meaningfully.

In this guide, we will walk you through the fundamental principles of TASSELS tactile signs and provide step-by-step instructions on how to effectively employ on-body signing with children who have PMLD.

Accompanied by helpful photographs, we aim to make this journey as clear and accessible as possible.

The Children's Trust School

Alert

Use this sign before using one of the "core" signs so that I know you are going to do/say something. Say "Young person's name".

Provide firm sustained touch on my shoulders using your hands.
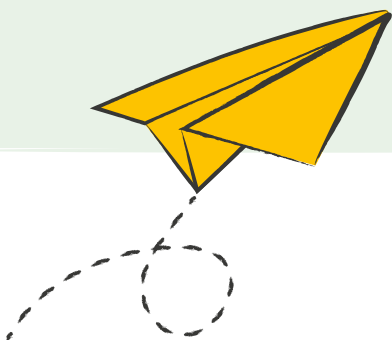
Then move your hands down my arms.

Hello

With one hand, shake the hand of the learner.

Adult's right hand to the learner's left hand or adult's left hand to the learner's left hand.

School

With the back of the fingers, provide a momentary touch to the chin and repeat.

Home

With arms bent upwards at the centre of the body, momentarily touch the hands together and repeat (as if clapping).

x2

Moving in wheelchair

(The adult stands behind the learner's wheelchair.) With the back of both hands placed behind the learner's shoulders, provide a sustained touch for two seconds.

Goodbye

With one hand, touch palm to palm (if physically possible) and wave gently from side to side (adult's left hand to the learner's right hand or adult's right hand to the learner's left hand).

Finished

With both hands together at the centre of the body, move the hands outwards horizontally then bring them back together to touch at the centre of the body as you say 'fin-ished'