Pronouns: He/she

Using language is important in order for a child to communicate successfully with others. In order for a child to use words and concepts in their vocabulary they first need to understand them. Using the pronouns ‘he/she’ is important as it helps a child to learn how to be accurate and specific when commenting and describing.

Use the pictures attached to teach a child about the pronouns ‘he/she’.

**Dressing Game**

1. Cut out the pictures and laminate them so that the activity is durable.
2. Give each person a copy of the boy and girl and the individual clothing pictures.
3. Check that the child knows what all of the pictures are and the different colours.
4. Tell the child you are going to dress the boy and the girl.
5. Inform the child that when talking about the boy we use a special word - ‘he’ and we use a different special word for a girl - ‘she’.
6. First, encourage your child to practice being a ‘good listener’. Explain to the child that you would like them to dress the boy and the girl. Provide clear instructions using the pronouns ‘he’ versus ‘she’ (e.g. He wants a blue hat; She wants a yellow hat).
7. If the child places the clothing item on the incorrect person (e.g. ‘He wants the blue hat’ and puts the blue hat on the girl), provide them with support and specific feedback (e.g. “Great try. I said ‘He wants the blue hat’ which means the boy wants the blue hat. Let’s put the blue hat on the boy”).
8. Once the child has finished listening to the instructions, play the game again. This time tell the child that it’s their turn to tell you what to do. Remind them to use the special word ‘he’ for a boy and ‘she’ for a girl.
9. If the child uses the incorrect pronoun, model the appropriate language (e.g. “Whoops! You said she needs the green shorts. ‘She’ is the word we use for a girl. You need to use the word ‘he’ if you want me to put the green shorts on the boy: He wants the green shorts”).