

Video Interaction Guidance (VIG) Information for Practitioners



On Track
VIDEO INTERACTION
GUIDANCE

#SEEING THE BIGGER PICTURE



What Is Video Interaction Guidance (VIG)

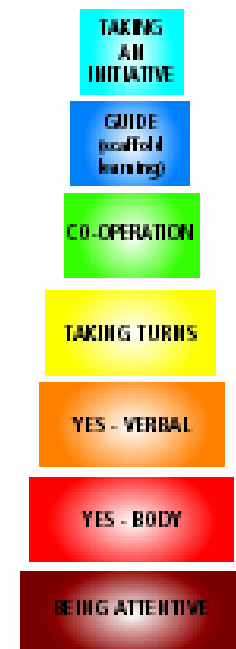
VIG is an intervention, which uses short pieces of video clips to improve communication between adults and children of all ages.

- VIG is a tool for observing, analysing and changing behaviour.
- VIG only identifies 'the positives', especially participants' strengths.
- VIG heightens awareness of verbal and non-verbal communication.
- VIG builds on an international evidence base regarding adult/child interaction and the use of unconditional positive regard.

Why Choose VIG?

- Research findings indicate that by focusing only on positive interaction, facilitators inadvertently and overtly reinforce the repetition of that behaviour.
- VIG Guiders emphasise the importance of 'Contact Principles' within communication. These are:
- Practitioners can use VIG as part of Professional Development Plans and reflective practice, adding value to interactions with children.
- It is a unique and creative medium that helps others to think differently about the impact of their communication on others.
- VIG can be used in a range of settings: from family and school to clinic or group settings. It can be incorporated within the delivery of other services. It can support a therapeutic process. It has been used successfully by teachers in the classroom and within small groups, by social workers during 'supervised contact'; as part of Youth Workers' activities with young people; for Health Visitors' facilitating bonding between babies and new parents; during parenting support groups or by Family Support Workers guiding enhancements within parent/child communication.

CONTACT PRINCIPLES



How does VIG work?

A VIG practitioner (guider) records approximately 10-minute clips of interaction.

If anything difficult occurs during the filming, the guider will stop recording. The VIG guider then edits the tape to identify three small positive excerpts of interaction. These are identified using the model of Contact Principles.



The edited clips of positive interaction are then shown to the participants. The feedback allows the participant to both visualise and verbally describe their positive interaction with the child. This in itself is very empowering and can quickly result in positive change. The duration of this intervention is flexible and specific to the needs of the participants. The intervention will be reviewed over a 6 weekly cycle.



What VIG is not.

- VIG does not focus on negative behaviours. It is not used to show anyone what they may be doing 'wrong'.
- VIG is not provided to produce evidence for court.
- If anything difficult occurs during the filming, the guider will stop recording.

On Track Delivery

Direct Work

On Track's use of VIG is for the early prevention of risk factors associated with future problem behaviours. On Track's team of multi-disciplinary staff are trained to deliver VIG with adults and children aged 4 to 13. The geographic area of the project is not limited but may initially focus on the Borough of Northampton. On Track will accept self-referrals from parents/carers or from professionals who have the consent of parents/carers. Difficulties with communication and interaction between adult(s) and children are the focus of appropriate requests. Direct work includes the following:

- On Track staff will record, store and share filmed material with respect to guidelines for Data protection and Informed Consent.
- VIG is not intended to be a 'stand alone' intervention. Referrals to On Track will need to demonstrate how other practitioners can work together with us, to make up a multi-modal approach for addressing concerns.
- On Track can deliver VIG with families, children and practitioners. This may typically be delivered within homes or in schools through 1:1's, during small group work or even between a teacher and a whole class. At home, VIG with parents/ carers can involve 1 child or family groups.
- From June 2006, On Track will employ a part-time Child and Parent Psychotherapist who can also use Play Therapy alongside the delivery of VIG. While working preventively, referrals for this aspect of the work may support issues where trauma, domestic abuse or substance misuse are having an impact on communication.
- On Track has been a research project since 2001. We will continue to monitor the project's effectiveness using validated tools as part of its evaluation.

How we will work with you?

1. Once we receive a referral, a VIG guider will make contact the referring practitioner to discuss the information provided.
2. Then, they will contact the referred adult to arrange a visit with the parents/carers, either at home or school, to discuss what the difficulty is and how VIG might be able to help.
3. A plan will then be agreed about what will happen next.
4. Obtaining all participants' signatures on consent forms is necessary before any filming can begin.
5. If VIG is taking place at school with your child, there will first need to be an observation of your child in class or with the teacher.
6. On Track is committed to a partnership style of working and endeavours to be respectful of all participants. Informed consent will be established with all parties before filming begins.
7. At any point in the VIG process the adults or children being filmed have the right to end their participation.

How to make a referral?

Please complete an On Track Request Form for Video Interaction Guidance and return it to the On Track office. If you require a set of forms, or additional copies of this guide, or the Information for Participants, please contact the office at the address overleaf

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on track is funded by the



VIG Accreditation Training

- On Track is funded by the Children's Fund until March 2008. We wish to leave a legacy of trained professionals in Northamptonshire, who can continue to support adult and child communication using VIG.
- On Track employs two Team Leaders who are accredited VIG Trainers. From April 2006 to March 2008, On Track will offer a total of 26 professionals an opportunity to complete a VIG training programme. The full programme takes 18-months, providing the trainee with VIG accreditation and the credibility to train others. Training includes a two-day introductory training programme, which enables them to begin delivering VIG immediately with free, regular supervision. Trainees will also have access to the On Track office's video editing programmes for processing VIG tapes/DVD's.
- Trainees will work within voluntary and statutory agencies and support children aged 0-19, addressing needs that span from the first signs of difficulties to an acute level of risk.

On Track is working in partnership with colleagues within the Children and Young People's Service: Northampton Family Support Team and Briar Hill Family Resource Team. These teams employ 2 trained VIG Guiders. At times, this partnership will offer opportunities for shared training and allocating VIG referrals as appropriate to risk level and workloads.

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(No referrals will be accepted via email)