

Partner Assisted Scanning (PAS)

Partner Assisted Scanning involves offering a range of options and using the person's 'Best Yes' to find out what they want to say.

How to do it

- List a range of options
- Go back through the options one by one, giving time for the person to say yes to any that they like

Partner Assisted Scanning can be used to give choices of objects or it can also be used in a more subjective way; to give opinions or feelings.

For example; If the 'Yes' is a look, you could say:

"I'm wondering how you're feeling: 'happy, sad, excited, mad or something else'

Then more slowly:

"Are you happy? I see you're looking at me and telling me yes, you're happy.

Are you sad? You're looking away...no you're not sad.

Are you excited? That was a big look and a smile, I can see you're very excited.

Are you mad? Looking away...no not mad.

Is it something else? Looking away, no not something else, just happy and excited.

So you're happy **and** excited, thank you for telling me. I wonder what you're excited about. I'm excited because we're going to see Grandma later. Maybe you're excited about going to see Grandma too, or because you just got a new toy, or because you've been eating chocolate, or maybe it's something else."

You could take the conversation a little further. Go through the options using their Best Yes as you did previously. If they say yes to the 'something else' - add on some more options!

Note: even if they say Yes to an earlier option, still go through all the options. Choosing one option should not be to the exclusion of all the others.

Partner Assisted Scanning is a powerful tool, not only to give choices when there are more than two things, but also to give an opinion and tell us what is wrong so we can offer the right type of support.

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