

# Dual Coding



Dual coding is the process of blending both **words** and **pictures** while learning. Viewing those two formats gives us **two different representations** of the **same** piece of information.



## Why use it?

This helps form a stronger connection and gives the information a better chance of cementing into our long-term memory, as well as helping us to recall this information more easily when needed.

## How can you use it in your practice?



### 1. Drawings

These boost learning by getting you to think deeply about information.



### 2. Diagrams

These are helpful for breaking down complex concepts or processes to make them easier to understand.



### 3. Posters

These are great for combining writing, pictures and diagrams all within one page of information.



### 4. Timelines

These can be used of information that happens in a particular order or sequence.



### 5. Graphic Organisers

These organise verbal and visual information by the relationships between different concepts. Examples include tree diagrams, mind maps and Venn diagrams.

## 4 Key Principles for using dual coding:



**Cut** - Reduce the amount of content, be selective and only use the most important information.



**Align** - Make sure that words and pictures are neatly ordered, making them easier to read;



**Chunk** - Divide the content into groups of related information;



**Restrain** - Avoid "overdoing" it. In other words, don't go crazy with different colours and fonts.