# Learning 'my' and 'your'



## Why is this important?

Pronouns are words that replace the name of a person. 'I', 'you', 'your', 'me' and 'my' are learnt first as they relate to the speaker and listener.

#### What to do

- Gather together two bags or boxes one for you and one for the child.
- Collect some everyday objects (e.g. toys, clothes, food, cars).
- Give the child an object (e.g. apple) and tell him/her whose bag to put it in, e.g.
  - ★ 'Put it in my bag.'
  - ★ 'Put it in your bag.'
- If the child is successful, reinforce by repeating the instruction:
  - ★ 'Well done, you put the apple in my bag.'
- If the child can't manage this, repeat the instruction, guiding him/her to the right place, e.g.
  - ★ 'Good try. You put the apple in your bag. Can you put it in *my* bag?' (Guiding the child's hand).
  - ★ 'Well done, the apple is in my bag.'



### Step up

- Reverse the roles so the child is telling you where to put an object, e.g.
  - ★ Adult has pencil.
  - ★ Adult: 'Where's the pencil going?'
  - ★ Child: 'Your bag.'
  - ★ Adult places pencil in own bag and praises the child.

N.B. It is difficult to offer choices when working on pronouns as they change depending on who is doing the talking.

## Step down

• To begin with, use gestures alongside the instructions, pointing to the child/yourself to indicate the pronoun.

