

Example from the 'Keeping in touch with home' report

...A young man from a minority ethnic background, whose settings seemingly do not appreciate the sensory significance of his cultural and religious background, including bright colours, cooking and prayers, which are not reflected in his daily life. Each visit by his mother starts with a hug and reciting a prayer together. This has a calming, reassuring effect and enables them to share a spiritual connection that has always been part of his life.

Ethnic identity is important. For example, a speech and language therapist made a symbol card to represent this young man, using a picture of someone from an obviously different ethnic group. Her son was confused when this card was offered to him to put with the picture for his family's home, inviting a visit home; presumably thinking that this meant some strange young man might stay there instead of him.

Source: [Keeping in touch with home](#)