

Bendigo Emergency Relief Centre



Bendigo Exhibition Centre
Prince of Wales Showgrounds
42 Holmes Road, Bendigo North Vic 3550

Phone (03) 5434 6000

Website bendigo.vic.gov.au



Social Story

Updated November 2021 V1

Guidelines

Thank you for choosing to use a Social Story written for Bendigo Emergency Relief Centre. This Social Story is written by [Access Ability Australia](#) and is suited for a person who may live with autism spectrum disorder, a language disorder, social communication difficulties and/or a cognitive delay/disability.

For your Social Story to be successful, we recommend you follow these guidelines:

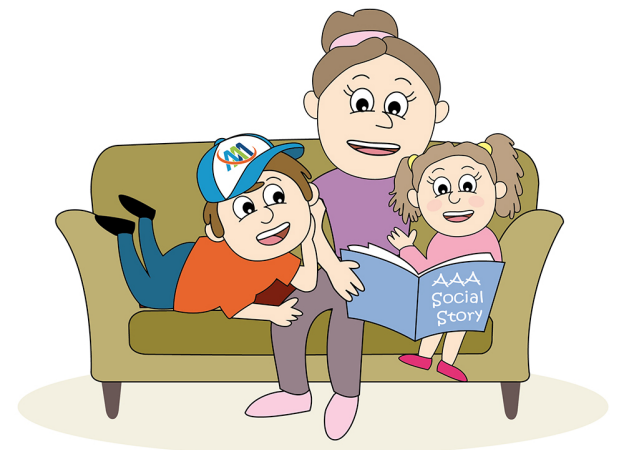
- Read Social Story often
- Social Story to be read and shared in an environment free of distractions
- Be calm, comfortable and honest when reading a Social Story
- Help the participant comprehend key points and consistently monitor for level of understanding.



**Access
Ability
Australia**

Who is [Access Ability Australia](#)? The founders and developers of Access Keys. They also develop visual [Communication Boards](#) and deliver [Communication Access and Awareness Training](#). To learn more, visit www.accessabilityaustralia.com.

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I am going to the Bendigo Emergency Relief Centre.



The Bendigo Emergency Relief Centre is a safe place to go to when there is an emergency evacuation in my neighbourhood.

An emergency might be a bush fire, flood or a storm.



When I arrive at the entry gates, I might see police in uniform and people wearing bright coloured vests.

I might see emergency red and blue flashing lights.

I might see a sign that says 'Emergency Relief Centre'.



The helpers at the gate will want to talk to my trusted person through the car window.

The helpers will show us where to park our car and where to enter the Bendigo Emergency Relief Centre.



There might be lots of people and cars in the carpark.

I will try to stay close to my trusted person.

This is very important to keep me safe.



At the entrance to the centre, I may see more helpers in bright coloured vests.

The helpers might be working at tables.

I may need to wait in line with my trusted person to speak to one of the helpers.



The helpers will ask my trusted person some questions.

The helpers will tell us where to go next.



I might see lots of people at the Bendigo
Emergency Relief Centre.

Some people might seem worried or sad.

I might also feel worried or sad.

That is okay.

There are lots of people to help me at the
centre.

I am in a safe place.



There are toilets at the Bendigo Emergency Relief Centre.

I will try to tell my trusted person when I need to use the toilet.



There will be food and drink available at the centre.

I will let my trusted person know if I feel hungry or thirsty.

My trusted person may come with me to get the food or drink.

Helpers at the centre will be able to assist too.



There may be times where a helper speaks on a microphone to a group of people.

The helper is giving people important information about the emergency.

I will try to be quiet while the helper is talking on the microphone.

This is so that everyone around me can hear the important information.



I might need some extra clothes or a blanket.

My trusted person will talk to one of the helpers who can give me the things I need.



There might be an area for me to play or relax.

There might be toys or books for me.

Other children might be playing or relaxing too.

I may ask my trusted person if I can go to this area.



I might need to stay overnight at the Bendigo Emergency Relief Centre.

There will be a safe place for me to sleep.

I might sleep on a bed in a marquee.

A marquee looks a bit like a tent.

There will be a bed, pillow and blankets for me.

I will be close to my trusted person.

I will tell my trusted person if I want to leave the marquee.



There will be different noises in the Bendigo
Emergency Relief Centre.

I might hear other people talking.

I might hear generators that help keep me
warm or cool.

I might hear wind and rain on the roof.



Sometimes the noise at the Bendigo
Emergency Relief Centre might be too loud
for me.

I can wear my ear defenders or ear plugs to
help me with the noise.

I might take some deep breaths.



I will stay at the Bendigo Emergency Relief Centre until the emergency has finished.

The helpers and my trusted person will tell me when it is time to leave.



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Contact

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