

AAC

{ AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION }

OCTOBER IS #AAC AWARENESS MONTH

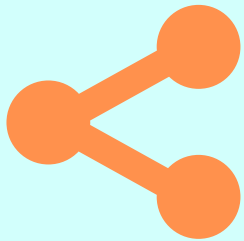
WHAT IS AAC?

The communication methods that replace speech, or are used in addition to speech.



Augment means to add or increase. We can 'augment' speech by using body language, facial expressions, vocalisations, gestures and eye pointing.

Alternative means a 'substitute for' such as pointing to symbols, signing, spelling or using an electronic device.



Communication means to share information with others.

TYPES OF AAC



Unaided Communication

- signing
- eye pointing
- body language

This does not rely on the use of equipment.

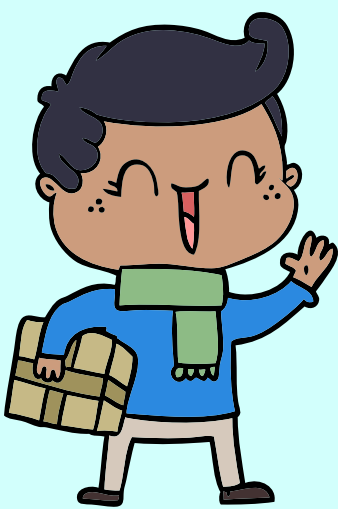
Aided Communication

- paper and pencil
- communication books/boards
- electronic systems
- speech generating devices



BENEFITS OF AAC

Allows AAC users to:



- express their wants and needs
- have more control over decisions that affect their lives
- inclusion & participation in community / family / relationships and all areas of life
- decrease their frustration
- be heard as an individual and have their own say