



No matter how
you communicate

.....

**your voice
matters!**

Lonsdale AAC Network Group

News & Information

What's in the
Newsletter



AAC in the classroom Training

OCTOBER IS AAC
AWARENESS IS
MONTH

Keeping you updated with
everything AAC

Edition 2
October
2022





AAC Knowledge & Understanding



The theme for AAC Awareness Month 2022 in October is...

"Show Your Voice"



Having a voice and showing it can mean different things to different people.



One way is to show a voice is literally, by displaying the technology and methods used to speak. Another way to show a voice is by displaying technology and methods to advocate for people, causes, and change in the world.



Awareness Month



Communication = Connection



AAC Knowledge & Understanding



"Show Your Voice"

International AAC Awareness Month is celebrated around the world each October.

The goal is to raise awareness of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) and to inform the public about the many different ways in which people communicate using communication devices.

thank you

for taking the time to talk

AAC

Augmentative and Alternative Communication

Accessibility Includes Communication

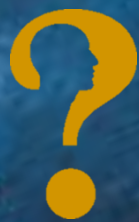


Let's Talk About

AAC

I USE MY
DEVICE TO
TALK!





AAC FACTSHEET

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)



People who use AAC to communicate love to chat just as much as you do!

There are many ways of communicating. AAC users may use multiple means, with different people, in different contexts, and at different times.



People who use AAC need access to many different types of AAC -- from sign language and pen and paper all the way up to speech generating devices.

AAC can encourage speech development, not hinder it.



Talk directly to the person who is using AAC, not to an accompanying family member or assistant.

Most people who use AAC have typical hearing. Speak in a normal tone of voice, without exaggerating.



A patient attitude is an effective tool in communicating with people who use AAC.

Ask individuals about their preferences. For example, some people who use AAC don't like it when people read over their shoulders or finish their sentences before they completely type them out.



People who use AAC need access to an appropriate AAC system that is not restricted to selection based on their assumed abilities.

It may look as if people who use AAC are not communicating, but people can control whole AAC systems with any body part, including their eyes!



AAC competence can take a long time to build.

People who use AAC have various levels of independence. Don't assume they need an assistant.





AAC news & information



AAC in the classroom

This short session will aim to provide foundation information on Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) in schools.

We will focus on:

The different forms that AAC can take and what might work for different children (including paper and power based systems and different access methods)

How to choose what AAC you want to try and how to incorporate using this into daily school life

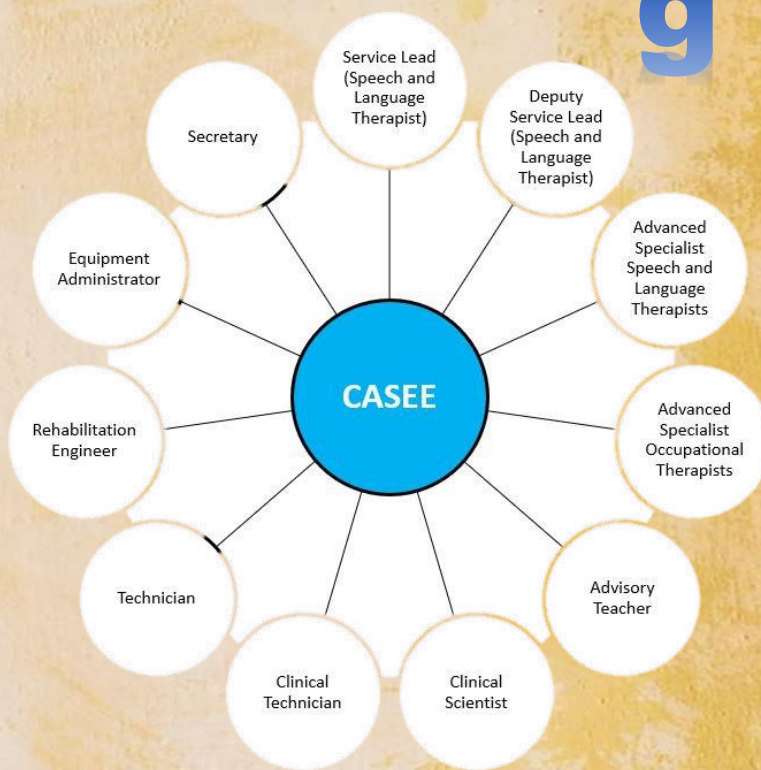
Troubleshooting common difficulties encountered in school environments

How to keep moving forward once you've found the right system
Case discussion and problem solving

Have a look here to join

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/casee-14012065641>

Oh Yeah! It's
FREE



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About us – The AAC team



MEET THE TEAM



Lindsey Swaine – AAC Specialist Technician
Monday to Friday 8.50am – 3.35pm – term time
Email: lswaine@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk
Telephone: 01438726999



Carla Bartlett – AAC Specialist Technician
Monday and Tuesday 8.50am – 3.35pm – term time
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If you experience any technical problems or require any AAC support please get in touch!

As a team we aim to provide a high level of support to meet each pupil's Alternative and Augmented Communication (AAC) needs.

We are responsible for:

Assessments;

Access to technology, hardware for VOCAs (Voice Output Communication Aids), mounting solutions for VOCAs.

Specialist Support for;

Technical support for VOCA, technical support for mounting solutions, specialist software.

Training – VOCA hardware, access and mounting solution;

For all school staff, for families and carers.

Programming, editing, upgrading and updating;

All AAC, this includes both paper base and power base.

Equipment;

Funded by Education or Health –

this will be supported by the AAC Support Team.

