



No matter how  
you communicate

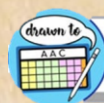
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**your voice  
matters!**

# Lonsdale AAC Network Group

*News & Information*

What's in the  
**Newsletter**



**What is AAC?**

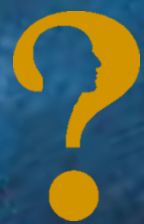
Training offering  
with the **AceCentre**  
Challenging Communicati

Keeping you updated with  
everything AAC

Edition 1  
September  
2022

**MEET THE TEAM**

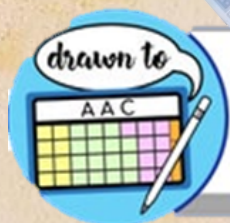




# AAC Knowledge & Understanding

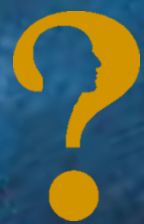


Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) is a range of strategies and tools to help people who struggle with speech. These may be simple letter or picture boards or sophisticated computer-based systems. AAC helps someone to communicate as effectively as possible, in as many situations as possible.



## What is AAC?





# AAC Knowledge & Understanding cont...



We use the term AAC to describe various methods of communication to get around problems with ordinary speech.

Some kinds of AAC are actually part of how everyone communicates: for example, waving goodbye; giving a “thumbs up” instead of speaking; pointing to a picture, or gesturing in a foreign country.

However, people with speech difficulties have to rely on AAC most of the time. Some AAC tools “add on” to verbal communication – simple methods such as pictures, gestures and pointing.

Some people need more complex help to communicate, such as powerful computer technology.







AAC covers a huge range of techniques which support, or replace, spoken communication.



## These include:

- Gestures
  - Signing
  - Symbols
- Word boards
- Communication boards
- Books
- Voice Output Communication Aids (VOCAs)





# AAC news & information



## Ace Centre Learning.

Aim of the two taster courses: To introduce switch control and eye gaze as an access method and consider what and how it can be used.



### Switch: you will learn:

- To name different types of switches
- To recognise different ways that switches can be used and activities they can control
- To identify skills required for switching

#### Access Methods: Switch



- Introductory level
- Free
- Runs on: 13/10/2022
- Join this webinar online



### Eye gaze. you will learn:

- To recognise the terminology associate with using eye gaze as an access method
- To recognise the different systems that are available
- To identify different skills required to use eyegaze functionally for control

#### Access Methods: Eyegaze



- Introductory level
- Free
- Runs on: 20/10/2022
- Join this webinar online

*Oh Yeah!* It's  
**FREE**



<https://acecentre.org.uk/learning/search?category=access>



# About us – The AAC team



## MEET THE TEAM



Lindsey Swaine – AAC Specialist Technician  
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Carla Bartlett – AAC Specialist Technician  
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Telephone: 01438726999

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.

