



No matter how
you communicate

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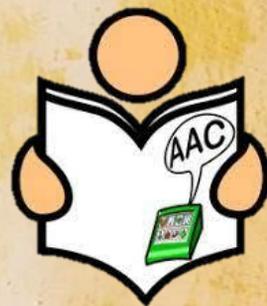
**your voice
matters!**

Lonsdale AAC Network Group

News & Information

What's in the
Newsletter

Paper Based AAC

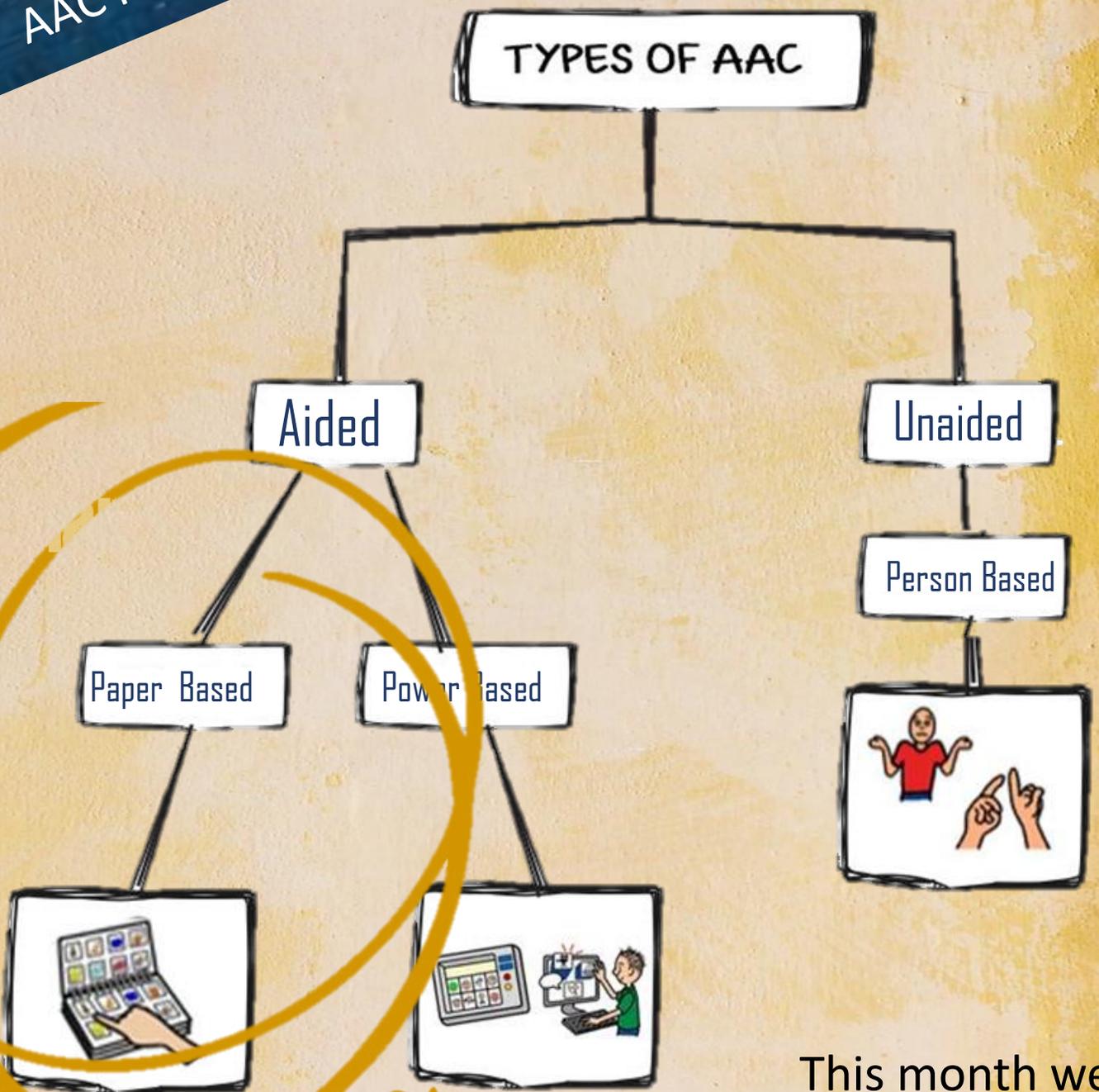


 aacScotland

Keeping you updated with
everything AAC

Edition 5
February
2023





This month we are focusing on Paper Based AAC.



Paper Based AAC

Paper based communication aids are those aids which require no technology. Most AAC users will have a combination of paper and power based system. It is a good idea to have a paper based system in place as these can often be relied on at times when the power based system is not available.





Why use paper based AAC?

- Can be quicker, less effortful and more effective than powered AAC. Often builds on existing natural methods to select, e.g., eye/hand pointing, or a vocalisation or small movement for listener mediated (partner-assisted) scanning.
- Sometimes preferred as it can be a more natural, interactive way of communicating, with both partners involved the whole time. Misunderstandings are shared and worked out together rather than the onus all being on one individual.
- A competent communication partner can respond instantly to an AAC user with appropriate levels of support, which a computer is unable to do.
- Can be used in places where a power-based AAC system may not be feasible, such as around water or in transport: often less affected by environmental conditions such as lighting and noise.
- Relatively robust, reliable and low cost, and can be quick to develop with resources close at hand in situations where AAC is needed quickly.
- Competencies using non-powered AAC systems are transferrable to powered AAC systems.
- Sometimes preferred, as in some contexts, technology can create a barrier. Can require less technical skill to support and develop.





AAC news & information



AAC Modules

Commissioned by NHS Education for Scotland (NES) as part of the Scottish Right to Speak initiative, CALL Scotland has produced a series of 2 online learning modules on Augmentative and Alternative Communication. Aimed at services, teams or individuals to review their current knowledge and develop best practice, and to ensure positive outcomes for people who use AAC.

Series 1: Introduction to AAC

Series 2: AAC in Education

Supporting Learners with Complex Communication Support Needs, in School



<https://www.aacscotland.org.uk/modules/>





About us – The AAC team



MEET THE TEAM



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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.

