

Augmentative and Alternative Communication

Augmentative and Alternative Communication is also called AAC.

AAC are ways to communicate when a person

- can **not** speak
- is hard to understand
- finds it hard to understand other people.



People may use many ways to communicate.

For example,

- objects
- picture boards or books
- spelling boards
- speech devices
- computers
- mobile phones
- computer tablets.



People also use their own body. For example,

- eyes
- face
- body language
- gestures and signing.

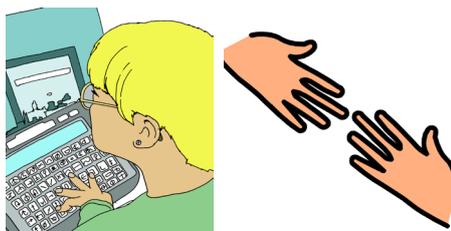


Who needs AAC?

Some people who

- have cerebral palsy
- have an intellectual disability
- had a stroke
- have a disease. For example, Parkinson's, Motor Neurone Disease
- have problems with their mouth and throat.

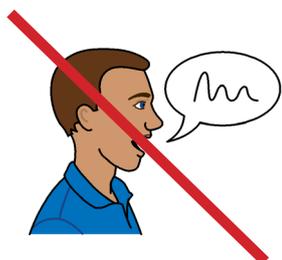
For example, from cancer or an accident.



What can happen to people who use AAC?

AAC can help a person communicate.

Everyone needs to communicate.



People who can **not** speak can find it hard to

- get information
- make friends
- learn
- get a job
- stay safe.



Does AAC stop children speaking?

No.

Using AAC can help children learn to speak.



How to make AAC work?

People need training.

People need to practise

- at all times
- in all places
- with all people.

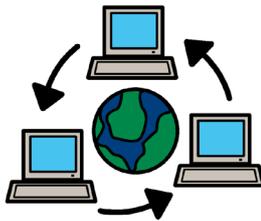


Where can you get help?

Contact a speech pathologist in your local area.

Speech pathologists can

- do an assessment
- give advice
- help you try AAC
- help you choose your AAC
- set up your AAC.

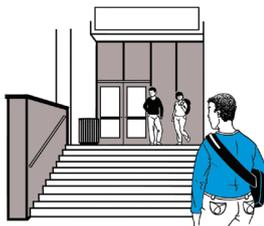


Find a local speech pathologist

Speech Pathology Australia

Website www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Click on - Find a Speech Pathologist.



How to become a speech pathologist

You need to do a course at University.

To find out more contact

Speech Pathology Australia

Phone 1300 368 835

Website www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Click on - information for the community.

Scope's Communication Resource Centre wrote the Easy English.
September 2013 www.scopevic.org.au

To see the original, contact Speech Pathology Australia
www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Mayer-Johnson LLC says we can use the Picture Communication
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