

AAC Dos and Don'ts

AAC stands for Augmentative and Alternative Communication.

It refers to a wide range of methods, devices, and strategies that can be used to communicate, either instead of or as a supplement to spoken language.

When supporting an individual with AAC,

Don't...



Use hand-over-hand prompting

Use prompts like "Now tell me on your talker"

Use PECS
(PECS is based on compliance and focuses on requesting)

Move buttons on a device

Limit access to an AAC system

Instead...



Model naturally without expectation

Honor multimodal communication

Use robust AAC systems
(Support rich communication for a variety of reasons)

Start with a larger grid size
(more vocabulary)
Support long-term motor plans

Keep AAC available all day, every day

There are no specific prerequisites for using AAC!

It's never too early or too late to support and honor multimodal communication.