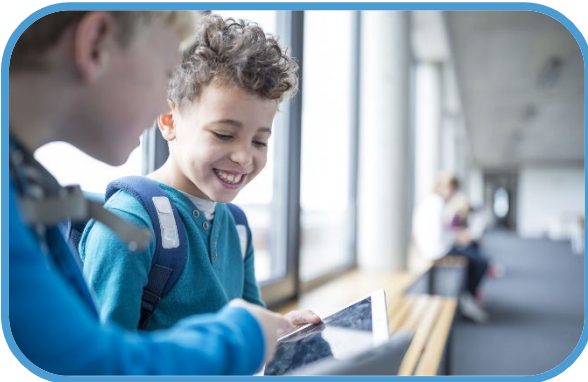


---Parent's Guide---

AAC



Augmentative and Alternative Communication AAC

This parent introduction to AAC was designed as a supplemental resource to help answer questions about this practice.

To find out more about how this AAC is being used with your child, please talk with:

For more information about this selected evidence-based practice, please visit <https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/>.

WHAT IS AAC?

- AAC is a system of communication that is not verbal/vocal
- Unaided communication systems do not use any materials or technology (e.g., sign language and gestures)
- Aided communication systems use some type of material or device and can include low tech systems (e.g., exchanging objects/pictures) or high-tech systems (e.g., battery powered speech output devices).
- AAC is used to increase a target goal/behavior/skill and/or to decrease an interfering/inappropriate/challenging behavior

WHY USE THIS AAC WITH MY CHILD?

- Communication is a basic human right that is essential for student success in academic and non-academic settings.
- AAC uses visual supports to make abstract social and communication concepts more concrete for learners with autism.
- AAC can support communication across the school setting and at home.

WHAT ACTIVITIES CAN I DO AT HOME?

- Encourage use of the AAC system during all daily routines, including extra-curricular activities, on errands and to visits with friends and family.
- Use the AAC system to support choice-making at home, for example during mealtimes or leisure time.
- Use the AAC system to allow your learner to respond to questions throughout the day.