

DO's & DON'Ts of AAC

This is what we do

- ✓ Do use the AAC system to talk yourself
- ✓ Do aim high
- ✓ Do use a well designed, comprehensive vocabulary e.g. core vocabulary or PODD
- ✓ Do provide enough wait time
- ✓ Do ask open ended questions
- ✓ Do focus on key words when modelling
- ✓ Do respect multi-modal communication
- ✓ Do allow exploration and access to the whole vocabulary
- ✓ Do make sure AAC is available all day, every day
- ✓ Do describe what you want to say using core words

This is what we don't do

- ✗ Don't expect the AAC user to communicate without you modelling how
- ✗ Don't demand prerequisite skills
- ✗ Don't provide an AAC system with only a handful of choices
- ✗ Don't do all the talking
- ✗ Don't ask questions the AAC user knows you already know the answer to
- ✗ Don't think you need to always model grammatically complete sentences
- ✗ Don't say "And now say it on your talker"
- ✗ Don't create custom pages for specific activities
- ✗ Don't limit access to the AAC system
- ✗ Don't focus on adding lots of vocabulary

Learn more: assistiveware.com/aac-do-dont