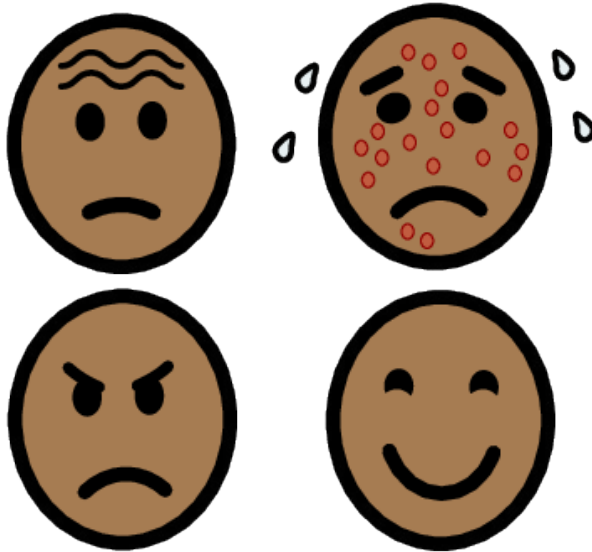




Communication

We have the equal right to communicate,
and to be understood.



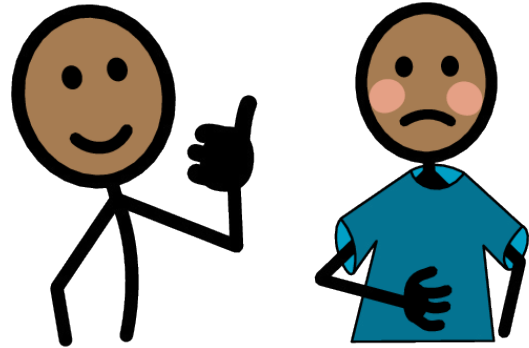


Do you need help to share your thoughts and feelings?

Do you need help to share your thoughts and feelings?

Do the people in your life need support to recognise and capture how you communicate:

- your likes and dislikes?
- your feelings?
- who you like and don't like spending time with?
- when you are feeling happy and safe?
- when you want something?
- when you are feeling bad?
- when you are in pain, or sick?
- when something is wrong?



What else do the people around you need help with to understand how you communicate your thoughts and feelings?

Write your ideas in your planning manual.

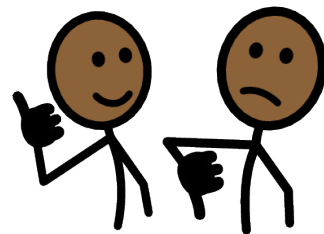


**Do you need help to be able to say no,
refuse and reject choices?**

Do you need help to be able to say no, refuse and reject choices?

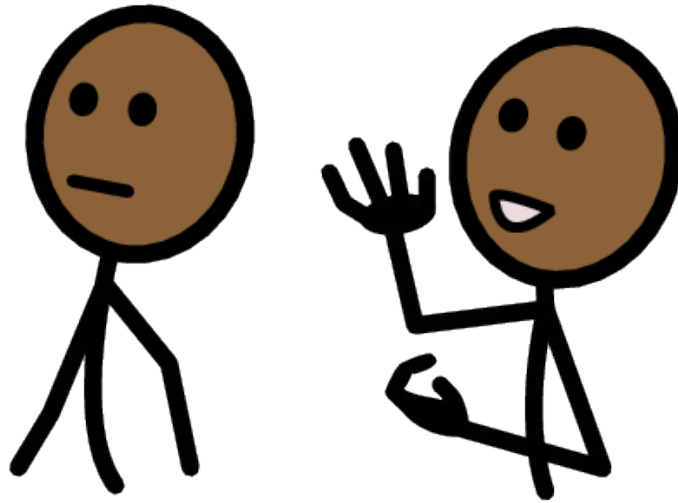
Do you need any of these things to support you to say 'no'?

- support for the people in your life to understand that it is your right to say 'no', even when that might be inconvenient for them?
- opportunities for your supporters to understand how to give you real choices?
- help for your supporters to learn how you say 'no' or reject a choice?
- the chance to learn to develop the way you say 'yes' or 'no' to be more understandable – for example by learning to shake or nod your head, use a key word sign, use eye gaze (e.g. up for 'yes', down for 'no'), or to use switches or a communication board to say 'yes' or 'no'?



Are there any other ways in which you could be supported to say 'no', refuse and reject choices?

Write them in your planning manual.



Do you have a way to ask for, and get, attention and interaction from others?

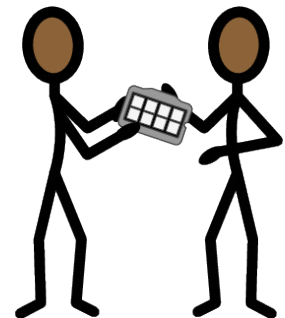
Do you have a way to ask for, and get, attention and interaction from others?

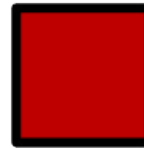
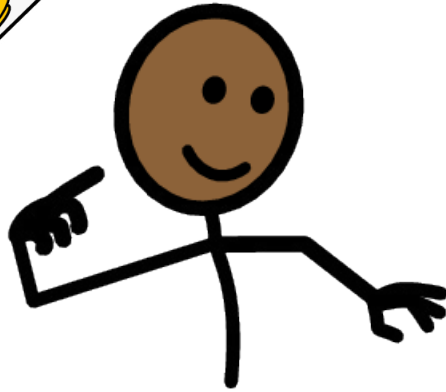
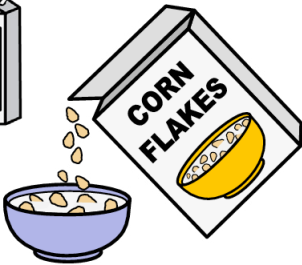
Do the people in your life need support to:

- understand your needs for attention and interaction?
- understand the ways you ask for attention and interaction?
- learn how to give you the attention and interaction that you need?
- help you to get the attention you need from other people successfully?
- learn how to speak with you, not about you in front of you?
- support you to strengthen relationships and spend more time with the people you like?
- support you to build new relationships?

What other kinds of help do the people in your life need?

Write your ideas in your planning manual.





**Do you need help to be able to
ask for what you want?**

Do you need help to be able to ask for what you want?

Do you need to find more ways to ask for what you want, and learn to use them, such as:

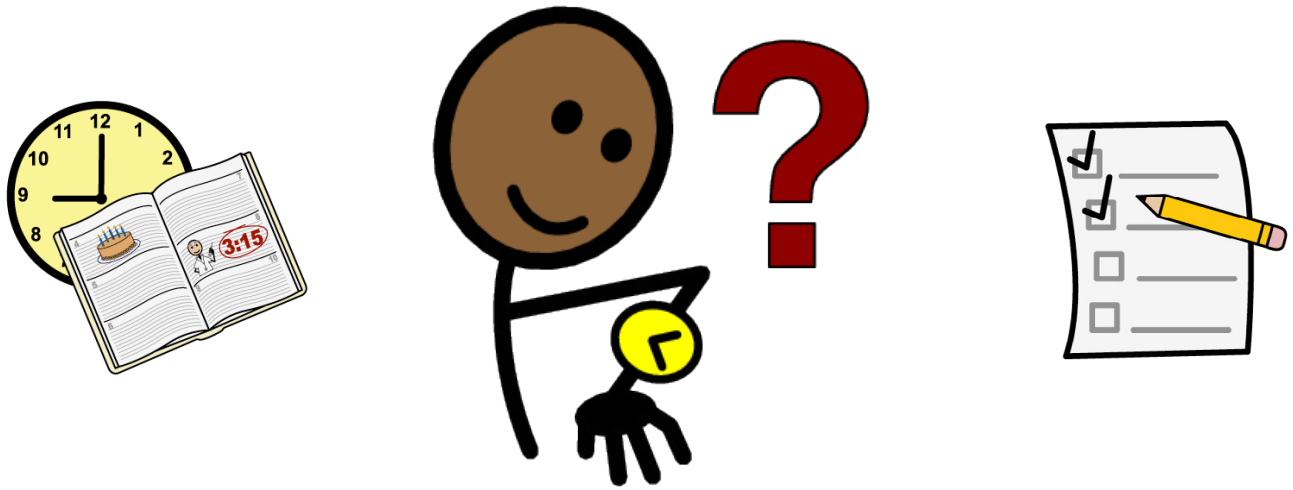
- symbols?
- pictures?
- photos?
- gestures and pointing?
- signing, e.g. key word signing or Auslan?
- taking or directing another person to what you want?
- auditory scanning*?
- objects?
- technology?



What other ways might you be able to ask for what you want?

Write your ideas in your planning manual.

* see your planning manual for an explanation of auditory scanning

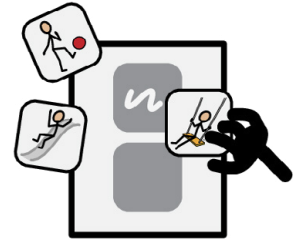


Do you have a way to ask about and know your calendar and routines?

Do you have a way to ask about and know your calendar and routines?

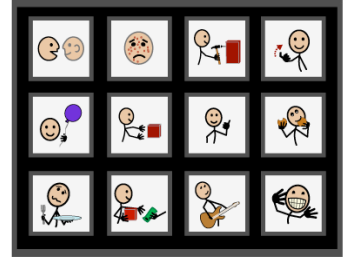
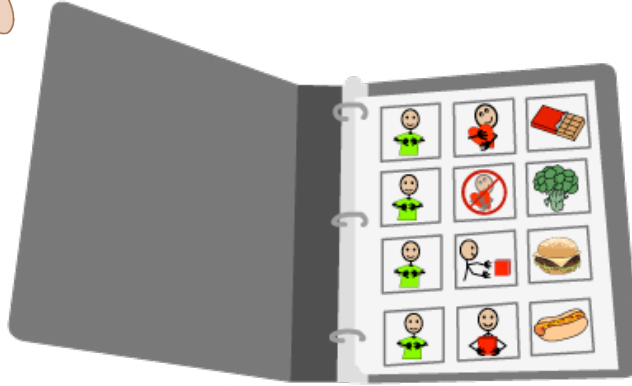
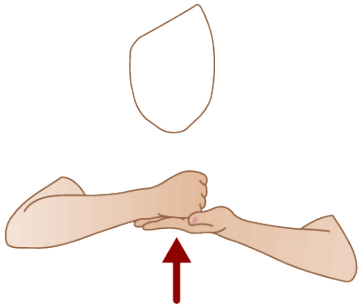
Do you and your supporters need help to develop routines which:

- are based on what is important to, and for, you?
- help you know what's happening now and in the future?
- suit your needs and wishes?
- you have input to?
- respect the ways you like things to be done?
- are recorded in ways you understand?
- you can access using visual, auditory, sensory or tangible supports?
- you can learn to access on technology, eg an iPad or smart phone?



What would it take for you to be able to ask about and know your calendar and routines?

Write your ideas in your planning manual.



Can you express everything you need or want to say?

Can you express everything you need or want to say?

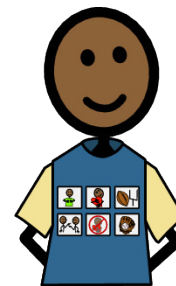
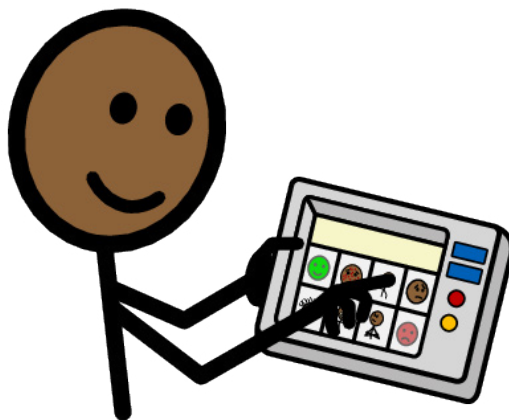
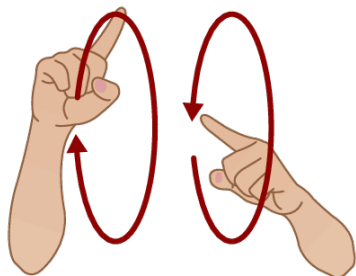
Do you or your supporters need help to:

- find the right communication system which you can use to have two way conversations with other people (for example a communication book, a communication app on an ipad, sign language, or Braille)?
- find the best way to access your system, such as pointing, eye gaze, a switch, a head pointer or a keyguard?
- customise your communication system to reflect what you want to say?
- help you learn to use a communication system even when you sometimes appear to not want or be able to pay attention?
- get help from local organisations to find the best strategies for you?
- help you to improve your communication and literacy skills over time?



What else might you need so that you can say everything you want to say?

Write your ideas in your planning manual.

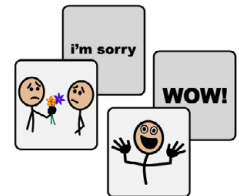


**Do you and the people around you
need support to learn how to use your
communication system?**

Do you and the people around you need support to learn how to use your communication system?

Do you or the people around you need support to:

- find a suitably qualified and experienced AAC professional to support you?
- understand that you might need to see others using your system for quite a long time before you are able to use it yourself?
- understand that your system must be accessible to you at all times and how to make this possible?
- learn how to use the system and to model its use for real social interaction?
- get help from local organisations to find the best strategies for you?
- attend a conference on communication to learn what's possible, and what works?
- find other AAC users to share experiences and support each other?



What else might you need to learn how to use your communication system?

Write your ideas in your planning manual.

