



4 Ps of AAC

Parent Edition



Present

AAC system is PRESENT

- Does my child have access to AAC supports *all* the time?
 - During daily activities at home
 - At school (charged and ready for use)
 - Any time we leave the house
- Does my child have back-up AAC supports available?
- Are there additional communication supports in our home that are similar to the symbols on my child's AAC system?
- Do we have a system in place to make sure the device is charged each night?



Personalized

AAC system is PERSONALIZED

- Is it evident that my child's AAC device belongs to them?
- Is my child's AAC system feature-matched to their needs and preferences?
 - Symbol type, voice, access method, visual display, editing, portability, positioning, language features, operational features
- Does my child have access to a robust vocabulary in their AAC system?
 - Core vocabulary
 - Fringe vocabulary (people, things, activities that are important to my child)
 - Pre-stored, quick-fire phrases (things my child says often or needs to be able to say quickly)
 - Access to the alphabet and word prediction



Persistent

Communication partner is PERSISTENT

- Do my child's classmates/peers understand what AAC is?
- Are others modeling on my child's AAC system and/or a matching system?
 - Adults and peers touch the corresponding icons on the AAC device when they speak to my child
- Do my child's educators/support staff use core vocabulary during instruction and ask questions that allow them to respond with core vocabulary?
- Have my child's teachers, service providers, family, relatives, and caregivers received training on my child's AAC system?



Patient

Communication partner is PATIENT

- Do I provide enough wait time during conversations so that my child can:
 - process what was said?
 - decide how or if they want to respond?
 - create a message on their AAC system?
- Does my child have a way to easily and effectively communicate the need for extra time?
- Do I honor and respond to *all* of my child's attempts to communicate (in any modality)?
- Do I avoid over-prompting and hand-over-hand prompts?

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