

How to... Build Independence using AAC



Promoting Hierarchy (How much support is needed – most to least)

Physical Prompt	Full physical prompt	Provide full hand over hand assistance
	Partial physical prompt	Show part of what to do, see if they can do the rest
Verbal Prompts (From Indirect to Direct)	Direct Model	Show them and then wait for them to imitate
	Partial verbal prompt	'You went to the.....'
	Request a response	'You need to ask me' or 'Now what?'
Non-verbal Prompts	Gesture	Tap towards the AAC system to get them started
	Body Language	Shrug with body, look expectantly
	Pause	Give them time

Top Tips

- Consider what the individual can do already
- Step down the prompts as the child / young person develops their skills and becomes more familiar.
- Consider the aim of using the AAC.
- Use the lowest level of prompting possible.
- Ensure the child / young person is able to achieve success to avoid them giving up.