



Communication System Recommendation

Reflective Practice Checklist

Choosing a communication system for a child or young person is a complex process requiring the consideration of many competing factors. Take a moment to reflect on your process to ensure you are ready to make a recommendation.

Child characteristics

I have gathered all the relevant information about the child's abilities, challenges and preferences and have considered all areas in the recommendation.

Age Child preference Communication ability Cognitive skills Diagnosis
Expectations and aspirations Linguistic level Motor abilities and operational competence Personality and temperament Progress and communication opportunities

I have avoided making non-evidenced assumptions about the child's abilities insofar as is possible.

Communication aid attributes

I have selected the most appropriate system based on a feature matching process and a thorough trialling process. I have given particular consideration to the language representation and organisation chosen.

Aesthetics Reliability Data storage and processing Consistency and intuitiveness of design Ease of editing Graphic representation Vocabulary

Access features

I have identified the optimal access method and have ensured there is an agreed plan of how the young person will access communication supports while skills are developing and/or when the recommended system is not available during their day.

Access method Mounting and positioning



Ways of working

I have ensured that the child or young person, their family, and all relevant team members have had the opportunity to express their opinions. I have also ensured they have been given all the information needed to be active participants in the decision making process. I have addressed external factors so that the child's needs remain central to the decision.

Balancing decisions Basis for referral Extraneous factors How decisions are made
Information brokering Inheriting decisions Policy Roles and responsibilities
Service delivery model Team theory

Transitions

I have considered future change to optimally plan for the new communication system.

Future planning Technology change

Available resources

I have identified who will be responsible for supporting the child with their new communication system and ensured that there is a comprehensive implementation plan in place. I have addressed any potential future roadblocks the child may face.

Attitude Cost Intervention Support Team knowledge and skill Training