



## Strategies for Successful Communication

It is important to remember that not being able to talk doesn't mean someone has nothing to say. AAC users have just as much to say as people who do not use AAC. Here are some tips for AAC users when communicating to others (both AAC users and non-AAC users):

- Do not be afraid to use AAC to help you communicate
- Be clear and concise
- Program frequently used words or phrases into your communication device (for example: your name or your usual coffee order). Ensure that you are familiar with these pre-programmed words and phrases.
- Make sure your communication device pronounces words correctly. This may involve pre-programming words or phrases so they are pronounced phonetically (for example: pre-programming Ay Ay See as AAC).
- Make sure your communication device's volume is loud enough. The volume of your device may need to be adjusted depending on the situation or environment.
- Be multi-modal in your communication. This could include: using more than one communication device, having a low-tech communication aid, and using sign or gestures, body language and facial expressions.
- Make sure your communication partner (both AAC and non-AAC users) have understood you correctly. Do not be afraid to correct them if they have mis-understood what you were trying to say.