

The importance of movable goal posts and how to navigate timelines set by others when supporting your loved one who uses AAC – presentation for parents and other informal supports

Madeline Lamb
Toni Green

Short Abstract

Presenters:

- Toni Green (parent and advocate)
- Madeline Lamb (Speech pathologist)

Parent: Sometimes navigating other's expectations around your loved one's communication and literacy development can be really hard. There's lots of mixed emotions and the urge to compare your family member with other's and then deal with the feelings can be tricky. I'd like to talk about that, share some of our experiences as a family and some strategies that have helped us as a family and my family member move forward. Sometimes the communication and literacy journey takes a bit longer. Learning is life long – and that's ok.

SLP: To help family members and informal supports set individualised goals, we would like to then talk about:

- Family and person-centred goal setting (and the importance of prioritising what the AAC user wants to work on!)
- The importance of reflecting, ticking off goals and celebrating successes along the journey
- Some family friendly outcome measures (language samples, taking videos, progress diaries)

I (Toni) see this presentation potentially being extended to a forum/meeting for parents and a networking opportunity for them to ask questions, and to hopefully provide an opportunity for parents to share ideas, to feel 'safe' to ask tricky questions.

Long Abstract

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