

Invested Teaching - Communication in the Curriculum

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Short Abstract

Join us as we share how we do it - how we, as invested teachers, integrate AAC into our classrooms. Over five years ago, Mudgeeraba Special School on the Gold Coast, Queensland, prioritised AAC as a tool for communication and learning. Since then, as a school community we have worked to embed AAC throughout the school day. While teaching Version 9 of the Australian Curriculum, we have a strong focus on teaching the language of all key learning areas with various forms of AAC. Now we have teachers tell us, "I don't know how to teach without AAC!"

As teachers, our core business is to teach language to our students. When we give our students the vocabulary to express their thoughts and ideas, students can participate meaningfully with the curriculum. They can also connect with their school community. Integrating AAC consistently through transparent planning for different stakeholders across various environments promotes positive learning outcomes for our students. AAC is such a powerful tool to teach language! Understanding the hidden language demands in the curriculum, and intentionally unpacking and teaching that language with AAC, provides so many learning opportunities for all students.

We are proud to be invested AAC teachers! We have embraced AAC in our classrooms and have seen the results. Join us as we discuss how we did it, share stories and examples, and learn about the benefits of AAC as a tool to teach language.

Long Abstract

This presentation is part of the AssistiveWare stream.