Agenda

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12 March 2025

9:00 am - 10:30 am
Pre-Conference Workshop 1 by Erin Sheldon

Session - <u>Pre-Conference Workshop</u> - Gilbert Suite

9:00 am
<u>Embedding robust vocabulary instruction into classroom routines</u>
<u>Erin Sheldon</u>
Embedding robust vocabulary instruction into classroom routines

9:00 am - 10:30 am
Pre-Conference Workshop 2 by Kathy Look Howery

Session - <u>Pre-Conference Workshop</u> - Riverbank Room 2

9:00 am
<u>The lived experience of speaking through a speech-generating device</u>
<u>Kathy Look Howery</u>

9:00 am - 10:30 am
Pre-Conference Workshop 3 by Gayle Porter

Session - <u>Pre-Conference Workshop</u> - Riverbank Room 3

9:00 am
<u>Aided language development</u>
<u>Gayle Porter</u>
Aided language development

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12 March 2025

10:30 am - 11:00 am
Morning Tea

Session - <u>Break</u> - Riverbank Foyer

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12 March 2025

11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Pre-Conference Workshop 1 by Erin Sheldon

Session - <u>Pre-Conference Workshop</u> - Gilbert Suite

11:00 am
[Embedding robust vocabulary instruction into classroom routines](#)
[Erin Sheldon](#)
Embedding robust vocabulary instruction into classroom routines

11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Pre-Conference Workshop 2 by Kathy Look Howery

Session - <u>Pre-Conference Workshop</u> - Riverbank Room 2

11:00 am
[The lived experience of speaking through a speech-generating device](#)
[Kathy Look Howery](#)

11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Pre-Conference Workshop 3 by Gayle Porter

Session - <u>Pre-Conference Workshop</u> - Riverbank Room 3

11:00 am
[Aided language development](#)
[Gayle Porter](#)
Aided language development

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12 March 2025

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Lunch

Session - <u>Break</u> - Riverbank Foyer

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12 March 2025

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Pre-Conference Workshop 1 by Erin Sheldon

Session - <u>Pre-Conference Workshop</u> - Gilbert Suite

1:00 pm
[Embedding robust vocabulary instruction into classroom routines](#)
[Erin Sheldon](#)
Embedding robust vocabulary instruction into classroom routines

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Pre-Conference Workshop 2 by Kathy Look Howery

Session - <u>Pre-Conference Workshop</u> - Riverbank Room 2

1:00 pm
[The lived experience of speaking through a speech-generating device](#)
[Kathy Look Howery](#)

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Pre-Conference Workshop 3 by Gayle Porter

Session - <u>Pre-Conference Workshop</u> - Riverbank Room 3

1:00 pm
[Aided language development](#)
[Gayle Porter](#)
Aided language development

12 March 2025

2:30 pm - 3:00 pm
Afternoon Tea

Session - <u>Break</u> - Riverbank Foyer

12 March 2025

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Early Career Professionals Networking Session

Session - <u>Pre-Conference Workshop</u> - Riverbank Room 4

Kick off your conference experience by connecting with fellow early career professionals in a relaxed and welcoming environment. This dedicated networking session, held in Riverbank Room 4 at 3:00 PM on Wednesday, 12 March, provides a valuable opportunity to meet clinicians from across Australia, share experiences, and build professional relationships before the official welcome reception. No booking is required - simply drop in and join the conversation. Engage in guided discussions, exchange insights, and expand your network in a supportive setting.

3:00 pm
[Early Career Professionals Networking Session](#)
Kick off your conference experience by connecting with fellow early career professionals in a relaxed and welcoming environment. This dedicated networking session, held in Riverbank Room 4 at 3:00 PM on Wednesday, 12 March, provides a valuable opportunity to meet clinicians from across Australia, share experiences, and build professional relationships before the official welcome reception. No booking is required - simply drop in and join the conversation. Engage in guided discussions, exchange insights, and expand your network in a supportive setting.

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Pre-Conference Workshop 1 by Erin Sheldon

Session - <u>Pre-Conference Workshop</u> - Gilbert Suite

3:00 pm
[Embedding robust vocabulary instruction into classroom routines](#)
[Erin Sheldon](#)
Embedding robust vocabulary instruction into classroom routines

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Pre-Conference Workshop 2 by Kathy Look Howery

Session - <u>Pre-Conference Workshop</u> - Riverbank Room 2

3:00 pm
[The lived experience of speaking through a speech-generating device](#)
[Kathy Look Howery](#)

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Pre-Conference Workshop 3 by Gayle Porter

Session - <u>Pre-Conference Workshop</u> - Riverbank Room 3

3:00 pm
[Aided language development](#)
[Gayle Porter](#)
Aided language development

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12 March 2025

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Welcome Reception

Session - <u>Social Function</u> - Foyer E - Exhibition

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13 March 2025

9:00 am - 9:50 am
Opening & Welcome

Session - <u>Plenary</u> - Hall C

9:00 am
[Welcome to Country](#)

9:05 am
[Conference Welcome - Amelia Edwards & Jodie Whitford, Conference Convenors](#)
[Amelia Edwards](#), [Jodie Whitford](#)
Conference Welcome - Amelia Edwards & Jodie Whitford, Conference Convenors

9:20 am
AGOSCI Welcome - Darryl Sellwood, AGOSCI Chairperson
Darryl Sellwood

9:30 am
Official Welcome - Honourable Emily Bourke MLC

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13 March 2025

9:50 am - 10:50 am
Keynote Address

Session - Plenary - Hall C

9:50 am
The Meaning of Voice
Kathy Look Howery

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13 March 2025

10:50 am - 11:20 am
Morning Tea

Session - Break - Foyer E - Exhibition

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13 March 2025

11:20 am - 12:40 pm
Concurrent Session 1a

Session - Innovate, Include - Hall C

11:20 am
Including AAC users in conversations about their own lives: what we learned from carrying out a research study with young people with cerebral palsy who use AAC
Megan Walsh, Chris Pacheco

11:40 am
Brodie's communication journey!
Brodie Shaw

12:00 pm
Empowering Autonomy Through Risk Enablement: Olivia's Decision Adventures
Marissa Carlyon, Olivia Rowswell

12:20 pm
Safeguarding Communication for Adults with Communication Disability in Community Programs: The Development of the Communication Toolkit Application

Amelia Edwards

11:20 am - 12:40 pm
Concurrent Session 1b

Session - Interact, Innovate, Include - Room E1

11:20 am
InterAACt: Communication, Connection and Community
Elizabeth Lea

11:40 am
Children's Perceptions of Natural and Synthetic Voices
Hannah Osborn

12:00 pm
A Tool to Support Inclusive Conversations: Talking Mats 'Supporting Communication with AAC' Resource
Claire Della Torre

12:20 pm
Use of Talking Mats to gain student voice at the Ponds School
Betty Campbell

11:20 am - 12:40 pm
Concurrent Session 1c

Session - Interact, Innovate - Room E2

11:20 am
Rethinking Non-Face-to-Face Therapy Support for AAC Users: Time for a Bigger Conversation
Rebecca Hudson
Rethinking Non-Face-to-Face Therapy Support for AAC Users: Time for a Bigger Conversation

11:40 am
Development and Support of Social and Emotional Wellbeing for Individuals with Complex Communication Needs and Coexisting Diagnoses
Cale Begley

12:00 pm
We need to fill the gap
Siobhan Daley

12:20 pm
Innovations in Communication Partner Training - Integral to AAC success
Haylee Parfett, Claire Montague, Kelly Pearce

11:20 am - 12:40 pm
Concurrent Session 1d

Session - Innovate, Include - Room E3

11:20 am
Phonics Implementation with People Who Need AAC: What Does the Evidence Base Say?
Nick Drover, Jane Farrall

Phonics Implementation with People Who Need AAC: What Does the Evidence Base Say?

12:00 pm
[Benefits of Synthetic Phonics Approach on Literacy Skill Development for Adult AAC Users](#)
[Cassandra Cook](#), [Kurt Pollock](#)

12:20 pm
["Navigating High School Transitions for Students with Complex Communication Needs: Physical, Social and Curriculum Inclusion](#)
[Noosha Hodgen](#), [Lucinda Panitz](#), [Philippa van Dorsselaer](#), [Pamela Vavra](#)

11:20 am - 12:40 pm
Concurrent Session 1e - Supported Decision Making

Session - [Include](#) - Gilbert Suite

11:20 am
[Supported decision-making for students with CCN](#)
[Erin Sheldon](#)
Supported decision-making for students with CCN

11:20 am - 12:40 pm
My Communication Passport

Session - [Base Camp](#) - Skyway Foyer

Create a personalised communication passport to share your communication preferences and ensure your voice is heard everywhere you go!

13 March 2025

12:40 pm - 1:40 pm
Lunch

Session - [Break](#) - Foyer E - Exhibition

13 March 2025

1:40 pm - 3:00 pm
Concurrent Session 2a

Session - [Interact](#), [Innovate](#) - Hall C

1:40 pm
[The benefits of movement and getting outdoors on communication and social interaction](#)
[Melissa Riepsamen](#), [Melinda Smith](#), [Laurence Byrne](#)

2:20 pm
[Screech Theatre Performances - Not just for Entertainment](#)
[Dale Gonelli](#)

2:40 pm
[Communication Champions: Revitalising a culture of communication within day and lifestyle services](#)
[Elizabeth Weston](#)

1:40 pm - 3:00 pm
Concurrent Session 2b

Session - [Interact](#), [Include](#) - Room E1

1:40 pm
[Making conversations about mental health easier: The role of communication partners according to people with communication access needs](#)
[Eleanor Watson](#)

2:00 pm
[Building Strong Minds: Including People with Cerebral Palsy in Mental Health Care](#)
[Connor Bryant](#), [Nerida Kho](#)

2:40 pm
[Spontaneous use of speech later in life: The potential impact of supported decision making, access to robust AAC, and meaningful community relationships.](#)
[Kimberley Robson](#)

1:40 pm - 3:00 pm
Concurrent Session 2c

Session - [Innovate](#) - Room E2

1:40 pm
[I used AI to write this paper: communicating with Augmentative Innovation](#)
[Darryl Sellwood](#)

2:20 pm
[Integrating AAC and Gaming: No Longer a Final Fantasy](#)
[Jessica Dickson](#), [Lesley Gallagher](#)

1:40 pm - 3:00 pm
Concurrent Session 2d

Session - [Interact](#), [Innovate](#) - Room E3

1:40 pm
[Exploring the tools for assessment of communication in multimodal communication and AAC](#)
[Stephanie Weir](#), [Jenna O'Brien](#), [Sally Clendon](#)

2:20 pm
[Supporting Interaction: Exploring Reports on PODD for Children with Communication Support Needs](#)
[Emma GRACE](#)

2:40 pm

[GLP: Implications for AAC, beyond supporting people who communicate using echoes](#)
[Bronwyn Wood](#)

1:40 pm - 3:00 pm
Concurrent Session 2e - AAC in Schools

Session - [Include](#) - Gilbert Suite

1:40 pm
[What does it mean to know a word? Vocabulary instruction for AAC learners](#)
[Erin Sheldon](#), [Shannon Braithwaite](#)
What does it mean to know a word? Vocabulary instruction for AAC learners

1:40 pm - 3:00 pm
My Communication Passport

Session - [Base Camp](#) - Skyway Foyer

Create a personalised communication passport to share your communication preferences and ensure your voice is heard everywhere you go!

13 March 2025

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Afternoon Tea

Session - [Break](#) - Foyer E - Exhibition

13 March 2025

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
Concurrent Session 3a

Session - [Interact](#), [Include](#) - Hall C

3:30 pm
[What I Wish My Teachers Knew](#)
[Margie CHARLESWORTH](#)

3:50 pm
[“I want to do what the others are doing”: Accounts of children who use AAC and their parents on inclusive education](#)
[Anna Kopsaftis](#), [Amelia Edwards](#), [Pammi Raghavendra](#)
“I want to do what the others are doing”: Accounts of children who use AAC and their parents on inclusive education

4:10 pm
[From Little Things, Big Things Grow: The Impact of an AAC Peer Training Program at an Inclusive Primary](#)

School
Amelia Edwards

4:30 pm
The Window
Kiah Haysom

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
Concurrent Session 3b

Session - Interact, Include - Room E1

3:30 pm
Bridging the Vocabulary Gap for Students who use AAC
Abirami Thirumanickam

3:50 pm
Describing the Outcomes of PODD to Support Interaction with Children: Perspectives of Professionals
Emma GRACE

4:10 pm
Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Access and inclusion for children with sensory disability and additional needs
Sarah Marshall, Vicky Cheung, Emma Bugarija

4:30 pm
Experiences of Professionals in Using PODD to Support Interaction with Children with Communication Support Needs
Emma GRACE

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
Concurrent Session 3c

Session - Interact, Innovate - Room E2

3:30 pm
Building the skills of communication partners
Melissa Riepsamen, Melinda Smith

4:10 pm
Panel: Things I Wish My Communication Partners Knew
Siobhan Daley, Joseph Harrall, Delara Kapadia
Panel: Things I Wish My Communication Partners Knew

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
Concurrent Session 3d

Session - Include - Room E3

3:30 pm
"Take the time to get to know us": a framework and toolkit for inclusive research with people with cerebral palsy who use alternative and augmentative communication (AAC)
Megan Walsh, Brenton Ponza, Darryl Sellwood
"Take the time to get to know us": a framework and toolkit for inclusive research with people with cerebral

palsy who use alternative and augmentative communication (AAC)

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
Concurrent Session 3e - AAC in Schools

Session - Innovate, Include - Gilbert Suite

3:30 pm
Vocabulary in Action: Practical ideas to support AAC learners in the classroom and beyond
Shannon Braithwaite
Learning vocabulary is essential for AAC users, as it helps them organise their thoughts, express ideas, and better understand others. For AAC learners, a strong vocabulary also forms the foundation for reading and writing.

But building this vocabulary doesn't happen on its own. Teachers and therapists need effective, engaging strategies to make vocabulary instruction a daily part of their classrooms and therapy sessions. This can be a challenge, and many educators need support to implement strategies that truly work.
In this session, we'll dive into practical, hands-on activities designed specifically to help AAC learners build their vocabulary. We'll explore fun and engaging ways to teach new words, helping students not only learn language but also use it in their everyday lives. You'll also learn how to support educators in building capacity so that vocabulary instruction becomes a natural, ongoing part of their teaching practice.
Whether you're working in the classroom, therapy room, or at home, you'll leave this session with practical, ready-to-use ideas that can make an immediate impact on your students' communication skills. Let's work together to give AAC learners the vocabulary they need to thrive!

3:50 pm
Invested Teaching - Communication in the Curriculum
Amanda Hartmann, Emily Seoud, Michaela Coleman
Invested Teaching - Communication in the Curriculum

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13 March 2025

5:00 pm - 6:15 pm
This is Not About Me: Documentary Screening and Q&A with Jordyn Zimmerman

Session - Presentation - Gilbert Suite

5:00 pm
This is Not About Me: Documentary Screening and Q&A with Jordyn Zimmerman
Jordyn Zimmerman
This is Not About Me: Documentary Screening and Q&A with Jordyn Zimmerman

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14 March 2025

8:50 am - 9:00 am
Welcome

Session - Plenary - Hall C

8:50 am
AGOSCI Awards - presented by Sheridan Forster

AGOSCI Awards - presented by Sheridan Forster

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14 March 2025

9:00 am - 10:00 am
Keynote Address

Session - Plenary - Hall C

9:00 am
[Words worth sharing](#)
[Jordyn Zimmerman](#)
Words worth sharing

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14 March 2025

10:00 am - 10:30 am
Morning Tea

Session - Break - Foyer E - Exhibition

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14 March 2025

10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Concurrent Session 4a

Session - Interact, Innovate, Include - Hall C

10:30 am
[Counselling with AAC users: learning from practice](#)
[Johanna Schmidt](#)

10:50 am
[Communication is the tip of the iceberg: Overcoming hidden barriers to realise inclusive mental health care for people with communication access needs.](#)
[Eleanor Watson](#)

11:10 am
[Grumpy Old (AAC) Woman](#)
[Meredith Allan](#)

11:30 am
[Emotion Work and People with Communication Disabilities](#)
[Margie CHARLESWORTH](#)

11:50 am
[The Link Between Inclusion and Advocacy for a World that Aims to Give Agency and Participation](#)
[Ben Keely](#), [Kelly Savage](#)

12:10 pm
[Finding their voices. Learning from those who were considered too disabled to talk.](#)
[Tracey Campbell](#)

10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Concurrent Session 4b

Session - [Innovate](#), [Include](#) - Room E1

10:30 am
[The AAC Mentor Program at Southern Support School](#)
[Tracey Hanigan eduation](#), [Madeleine Polegaj](#), [Simon Ellaby](#), [Joseph Reynolds](#)

11:10 am
[Long term Implementation of Robust AAC in a Special Educational Setting](#)
[Brett Pearson](#), [Emma Pearson](#), [Helen Tainsh](#), [Jane Farrall](#)
Long term Implementation of Robust AAC in a Special Educational Setting

11:50 am
[Innovative practice working with complex communication and vision impairment in the special school setting in Queensland](#)
[Catriona Pine](#), [Sara King-Koi](#)
Innovative practice working with complex communication and vision impairment in the special school setting in Queensland

12:10 pm
[Sustainable AAC supports in the education context: The AAC in classrooms project](#)
[Harmony Turnbull](#), [Tracey Hanigan](#), [Felicity Lovatt](#)

10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Concurrent Session 4c

Session - [Innovate](#), [Include](#) - Room E2

10:30 am
[It takes a village: identifying and providing essential telepractice strategies for quality AAC intervention for people with complex physical disabilities outside major metropolitan centres](#)
[Cassie Doyle](#), [Kimberley Quan](#)

11:10 am
[AAC from Afar: Improving Telehealth Trials](#)
[Lilla O'Keeffe](#), [Sarah Stewart](#)
AAC from Afar: Improving Telehealth Trials

11:30 am
[Innovating to interact and include - Evaluating a multidisciplinary, multi-modal training approach for AAC Teams in regional Australia](#)
[Helen Dimond](#), [Tammie Cunningham](#)

11:50 am
[Bridging the Gap: Empowering Remote Communities with AAC Access in Cape York and the Torres Strait](#)
[Lilla O'Keeffe](#), [Maria Hill](#)

12:10 pm
[Indigenous data sovereignty and governance: Considerations for AAC practice with Yolŋu families](#)
[Rebecca Amery](#), [Julie Gungunbuy Wunungmurra](#)

10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Concurrent Session 4d

Session - Interact, Innovate, Include - Room E3

10:30 am
Building Employer Confidence to recruit and retain employees with communication disability and low literacy.
Sarah Mitchell, Katie Lyon, Jacob Matthew
Building Employer Confidence to recruit and retain employees with communication disability and low literacy.

10:50 am
Communicate and Connect: Capacity building in residential services
Bronwen Jones

11:10 am
Play and Chat: Creating Communication Accessible Parks and Play Spaces
Sarah Mitchell
Play and Chat: Creating Communication Accessible Parks and Play Spaces

11:30 am
Communication for NOW to support communication in the future: Exploring and promoting shared meaning in interactions between adults with severe and profound intellectual disability and their partners
Sheridan Forster, Meredith Prain

11:50 am
'Walling' A way to grow AAC Culture and AAC skills in communities
Jenny Barnes

12:10 pm
Be Safe Online: Resourcing young people with communication disability, cognitive impairment, and low literacy levels
Katie Lyon

10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Concurrent Session 4e - AAC in Numbers

Session - Innovate - Gilbert Suite

10:30 am
Similar students, different AAC outcomes: What explains Australia's magic?
Erin Sheldon, David Niemeijer
Similar students, different AAC outcomes: What explains Australia's magic?

11:30 am
Measuring AAC User Linguistic Competence: A Novel Approach
Erin Sheldon, David Niemeijer
Measuring AAC User Linguistic Competence: A Novel Approach

10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Party Pit Stop

Session - Base Camp - Skyway Foyer

Get creative and transform your mask into a party masterpiece with jewels, colors, and endless flair—perfect to wear at the conference dinner!

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14 March 2025

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
Lunch

Session - Break - Foyer E - Exhibition

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
Panel: "It's my voice": The ethics of prescribing and changing AAC systems

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Session - Interact, Innovate - Hall C

12:30 pm
Panel: "It's my voice": The ethics of prescribing and changing AAC systems
Kathy Look Howery, Gayle Porter, Hannah Gutke, Meredith Allan
Panel: "It's my voice": The ethics of prescribing and changing AAC systems

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14 March 2025

1:30 pm - 2:50 pm
AAC in Schools

Session - Innovate - Gilbert Suite

1:30 pm
Coaching for Confident Classrooms: Unlocking the Magic of AAC
Amanda Hartmann, Shannon Braithwaite
Coaching for Confident Classrooms: Unlocking the Magic of AAC

1:30 pm - 2:50 pm
AGM

Session - Social Function - Hall C

1:30 pm
AGM
AGM

1:30 pm - 2:50 pm
Poster Presentations

Session - Poster Presentations - Foyer E - Exhibition

Please click **here** to review Posters

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14 March 2025

2:50 pm - 3:10 pm
Afternoon Tea

Session - Break - Foyer E - Exhibition

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14 March 2025

3:10 pm - 4:50 pm
Concurrent Session 5a

Session - Interact, Innovate - Hall C

3:10 pm
Supporting Emergent Communicators: More than Aided AAC Modeling
Jane Farrall, Helen Tainsh

4:30 pm
The Diary of a Workshop Presenter: building capacity for communication partners
Kate Munro

3:10 pm - 4:50 pm
Concurrent Session 5b

Session - Innovate, Include - Room E1

3:10 pm
From cats sitting on puzzles to reading books and road trips: Using analogies to illuminate concepts in AAC.
Janelle Sampson
From cats sitting on puzzles to reading books and road trips: Using analogies to illuminate concepts in AAC.

3:30 pm
Visionary Leadership, Innovative Practices: A Three-Year Journey of Transforming Communication Accessibility at St. Patrick's Special School
Cathy Sires

3:50 pm
CAS or Can't? Building a Communication Accessible School.
April Beaton

4:10 pm
From process to progress: The real goal of writing goals.
Janelle Sampson

4:30 pm
Discovery of Communication Access at Victorian Library Services – Understanding facilitators, barriers and gaps through a staged approach

[Nora Halpin](#)
Discovery of Communication Access at Victorian Library Services – Understanding facilitators, barriers and gaps through a staged approach

3:10 pm - 4:50 pm
Concurrent Session 5c

Session - [Innovate](#), [Include](#) - Room E2

3:10 pm
[AAC research in Australia: Strengths, challenges, and future directions](#)
[Abirami Thirumanickam](#), [Darryl Sellwood](#), [Eleanor Watson](#), [Emma GRACE](#), [Pammi Raghavendra](#), [Rebecca Amery](#)
AAC research in Australia: Strengths, challenges, and future directions

4:30 pm
[Key Word Sign and Gesture - An inclusive strategy for promoting language and learning through embodied action](#)
[Leigha Dark](#)

3:10 pm - 4:50 pm
Concurrent Session 5d

Session - [Interact](#), [Innovate](#) - Room E3

3:10 pm
[Empowering Communication: Eye Gaze and Head Tracking Technologies](#)
[Sarah Stewart](#), [Emily Swanson](#)
Empowering Communication: Eye Gaze and Head Tracking Technologies

3:30 pm
[Advancing Communication Through the Eye Gaze Learning Workbook: Clinical Insights and Innovations](#)
[Amy Litton](#)
Advancing Communication Through the Eye Gaze Learning Workbook: Clinical Insights and Innovations

3:50 pm
[Minspeak in Action: Tools for Spontaneous Interaction](#)
[Delara Kapadia](#), [Siobhan Daley](#)
Minspeak in Action: Tools for Spontaneous Interaction

4:10 pm
[Harnessing Data for Enhanced AAC Outcomes: A Realize Language Workshop](#)
[Freya Allen](#), [Leah Cardwell](#)
Harnessing Data for Enhanced AAC Outcomes: A Realize Language Workshop

4:30 pm
[There's More to Touch than Meets the Eye: Optimizing Touch Access for AAC Users](#)
[Stacey Fisher](#)
There's More to Touch than Meets the Eye: Optimizing Touch Access for AAC Users

3:10 pm - 4:50 pm
Concurrent Session 5e - AAC in Schools

Session - [Innovate](#) - Gilbert Suite

3:10 pm
[AAC as a Tool for Feelings, Regulation and Problem Solving](#)
[Amanda Hartmann](#)
AAC as a Tool for Feelings, Regulation and Problem Solving

4:10 pm
[AAC vs Visual Tools: Let's compare strategies and focus on connection](#)
[Amanda Hartmann](#), [Shannon Braithwaite](#)
AAC vs Visual Tools: Let's compare strategies and focus on connection

3:10 pm - 5:40 pm
Festival Faces

Session - [Base Camp](#) - Skyway Foyer

Step into the festival vibe and get ready for the Conference Dinner with dazzling face painting and decorative designs! Whether you want a touch of sparkle or a bold look to match the dinner theme, we've got you covered—fun for all ages!

14 March 2025

7:00 pm - 11:00 pm
Conference Dinner

Session - [Social Function](#) - Hall F

15 March 2025

8:50 am - 9:00 am
Welcome

Session - [Plenary](#) - Hall C

8:50 am
[AGOSCI volunteer acknowledgement (Melissa Bakes) and AAC user achievements (Darryl Sellwood)](#)
[Melissa Bakes](#), [Darryl Sellwood](#)
AGOSCI volunteer acknowledgement (Melissa Bakes) and AAC user achievements (Darryl Sellwood)

15 March 2025

9:00 am - 10:00 am
Keynote Address

Session - [Plenary](#) - Hall C

9:00 am

[Multi-modal interaction for communication and language development.](#)
[Gayle Porter](#)
Multi-modal interaction for communication and language development.

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15 March 2025

10:00 am - 10:30 am
Morning Tea

Session - [Break](#) - Foyer E - Exhibition

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15 March 2025

10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Concurrent Session 6a

Session - [Interact](#), [Include](#) - Hall C

10:30 am
[Parents' lived experience of their role in mediating community environments to facilitate the participation of their child with Complex Communication Needs](#)
[Caitlin Slaney](#)

10:50 am
[Dear Speechies...Lessons from Parents' Lived Experiences](#)
[Kylie Barsby](#), [Amanda Lott](#)

11:30 am
[Journey to Robust Communication for Children with Complex Support Needs: A Collaborative Approach](#)
[Jessica Preston](#), [Samantha Hodge](#)

11:50 am
[Walking Together on the Road to Communication Autonomy](#)
[Hannah Gutke](#), [Claire Andersen](#)

12:10 pm
[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](#)

10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Concurrent Session 6b

Session - [Interact](#), [Innovate](#), [Include](#) - Room E1

10:30 am
[Expanding Access: Alternative Methods for Using Voiceitt Speech Recognition Technology](#)
[Jessica Dickson](#), [Tanith Brien](#)

10:50 am
[Innovative AAC options for phones, digital media and gaming platforms](#)

[Edwina Pursehouse](#), [Lisa Gore](#)
Innovative AAC options for phones, digital media and gaming platforms

11:10 am
[Alternative Access Methods for iOS in AAC](#)
[Stephen Williams](#), [Emily Swanson](#)
Alternative Access Methods for iOS in AAC

11:30 am
[Enhancing AAC Outcomes: An Informed App and Page Set Selection Framework](#)
[Claire Della Torre](#)

11:50 am
[Switching and getting unstuck – The Switching Access Measure (SAM) Journey](#)
[Louise Ganser](#)

12:10 pm
[Beyond Batteries: Unleashing the Power of Low-Tech AAC for Liberator Language Systems](#)
[Stephen Williams](#), [Lilla O'Keeffe](#)

10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Concurrent Session 6c

Session - [Innovate](#), [Include](#) - Room E2

10:30 am
[Enablers and Barriers in AAC use when working with Adults with Acquired Brain Injury](#)
[Chantelle Hutchinson](#)

11:10 am
[Feature Matching Considerations for AAC in Adult Neuro Rehabilitation](#)
[Freya Allen](#), [Leah Cardwell](#)
Feature Matching Considerations for AAC in Adult Neuro Rehabilitation

11:30 am
[Leading their way: AAC and MND](#)
[Leanne Shane](#)

11:50 am
[Opinions and perspectives of AAC users in a Victorian community setting: an inclusive qualitative study](#)
[Grace Scheiner](#), [Cailey Waterman](#)

12:10 pm
[Redefining mentoring in unique communication scenarios](#)
[Kate Munro](#), [Janelle Sampson](#), [Margie Charlesworth](#), [Erin Morley](#)

10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Concurrent Session 6d

Session - [Interact](#), [Innovate](#), [Include](#) - Room E3

10:30 am
[Best Care for People with Communication Disabilities: Communication Accessible Emergency Health](#)
[Keith R. Mc Villy](#), [Amber Smith](#), [Katie Lyon](#)
Best Care for People with Communication Disabilities: Communication Accessible Emergency Health

11:10 am

[The Training Experiences and Knowledge of Australian Supporting Workers in Assisting People with Communication Support Needs](#)
[Clancy Conlon](#)

11:30 am
[Moving from "engineering the environment for communication" towards building capable environments](#)
[Laura Jones](#), [Debbie Lobb](#)

11:50 am
[Preparation and Competency of Speech Pathologists to Practice in Augmentative and Alternative Communication](#)
[Stephanie Weir](#), [Sally Clendon](#)

12:10 pm
[Starting with Partnership: designing a Master of Speech Pathology with people with a disability, carers and communities](#)
[Meredith Allan](#), [Jemma Skeat](#), [Jo Watson](#)

10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Concurrent Session 6e - Challenging AAC Practice

Session - [Innovate](#) - Gilbert Suite

10:30 am
[Are we approaching AAC modelling all wrong? Lessons from early language development and motherese](#)
[Erin Sheldon](#), [David Niemeijer](#)
Are we approaching AAC modelling all wrong? Lessons from early language development and motherese

15 March 2025

12:30 pm - 2:30 pm
Alpacaslimey

Session - [Base Camp](#) - Skyway Foyer

Alpacaaslimey is a small business that creates slime, including Australia's first Less Mess Slime! It is a great sensory item to improve fine-motor skill development and is also great for stress relief. The first twenty people can join Alpacaslimey to create their very own slime! Limited spots available, arrive promptly to secure your spot.

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
Lunch

Session - [Break](#) - Foyer E - Exhibition

15 March 2025

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Concurrent Session 7a

Session - Innovate, Include - Hall C

1:30 pm
Including Everyone – Adopting a Universal Language System in Inclusive Schools
Kathy Look Howery

2:50 pm
Developing Print Concepts: Supporting Autistic Literacy Learners to Move to Conventional Literacy Instruction
Jane Farrall

3:10 pm
Adapting Early Literacy Assessment Tasks
Sally Clendon

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Concurrent Session 7b

Session - Interact, Innovate, Include - Room E1

1:30 pm
'I've never done anything like this before': Integrating reflective practice, research, community and clinical service delivery to build the evidence base in culturally responsive AAC with First Nations families
Rebecca Amery, Laura Ferrie

1:50 pm
Empowering Communication: Innovating AAC Access in Ghana through Training, Mentoring, and Device Donation
Amy Litton

2:10 pm
How therapy group programs can be a stepping stone to community engagement and participation
Melissa Riepsamen, Melinda Smith

2:30 pm
"There's still really a long way to go": Mainstream teachers' perspectives on culturally and linguistically inclusive communication in school settings.
Trini Lam

2:50 pm
The Friendships and Social Relationships of Students with Complex Communication Needs In and Outside of Special School Settings
Hui Jun Ho

3:10 pm
Empowering Connection: Resources to Boost Inclusive Interactions for Students with Complex Communication Needs
Kathleen Johnston, Madeleine Lock

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Concurrent Session 7c

Session - Innovate, Include - Room E2

1:30 pm
Parent and Therapist Partnerships in AAC: Sustaining Success as Children Become Teenagers

Gemma Holleran, Laura Greene

1:50 pm
Empowering Parents: Strategies for Speech Pathologists in AAC Trials and Interventions
Sarah Stewart, Emily Swanson
Empowering Parents: Strategies for Speech Pathologists in AAC Trials and Interventions

2:10 pm
What is family centred practice really?
Jenna O'Brien, Kylie Barsby

2:30 pm
Speech Pathologists working in schools, what is the 'right' model?
April Beaton

2:50 pm
"AAC is hot sh*t!". Facilitating a positive narrative around AAC for speech language pathologists
Clancy Conlon

3:10 pm
Neurodiversity-Affirming Practice – Exploring the Knowledge and Perspectives of Australian Speech Pathologists
Stephanie Weir

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Concurrent Session 7d

Session - Interact, Include - Room E3

1:30 pm
Understanding Communication About Sexuality for Adolescent AAC Users with Cerebral Palsy
Megan Walsh, Penelope Manning

1:50 pm
Insights from the co-design of a website about sexuality for people with Communication Access Needs
Jaquie Mills, Lud Allen, Eli Dickenson

2:30 pm
Navigating Sexuality Support for Adolescents with Cerebral Palsy who use AAC: Perspectives, Challenges, and Key Themes
Megan Walsh, Penelope Manning, Chris Pacheco

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Concurrent Session 7e - Challenging AAC Practice & Engaging AAC

Session - Interact, Innovate - Gilbert Suite

1:30 pm
Busting Myths: Regulation and AAC
Jordyn Zimmerman
Busting Myths: Regulation and AAC

2:30 pm
AAC FUN should be done! AAC activities to engage ALL learners!
Amanda Hartmann, Shannon Braithwaite
AAC FUN should be done! AAC activities to engage ALL learners!

15 March 2025

**3:30 pm - 4:00 pm
Afternoon Tea**

Session - <u>Break</u> - Foyer E - Exhibition

15 March 2025

**4:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Closing Ceremony**

Session - <u>Plenary</u> - Hall C

4:00 pm
[Closing Ceremony](#)