

Let's Play

What is it?

Lets play is a fun approach to teach early communication skills for young children. These form the basis of learning, play and social interaction with adults and their peers.

What it promotes and supports children with...

Shared attention

Looking and listening

Cause and effect

Concentration and attention

Low Tech ACC- Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) is a range of strategies and tools to help people who struggle with speech. These may be simple letter or picture boards or sophisticated computer-based systems. AAC helps someone to communicate as effectively as possible, in as many situations as possible.

Turn taking

Using vocalisations with meaning

Anticipation

Non- Verbal communication skills

How to use it every day...

Using the Let's play approach in everyday life is very straight forward for example; Giving your child a choice of two snacks, apple or orange. Hold both snacks up for your child to see and name them emphasizing the words as you do this to ensure the child hears you. If child looks at apple indicate that is their chosen snack, put the none chosen snack down and hold the chosen snack saying the snack choice 'Apple'. Then give the child the apple. (This can be used with clothing, drinks, toys and many more)

Environment...

When using the Let's play approach you must ensure that the environment is suitable before you carry this out. Ensure that there are no distractions for your child to lose focus and attention on what is happening. Here are a few examples for you to consider removing.

- **Television**
- **Toys**
- **Music**
- **Animals/ Pets**
- **Many adults in the room**
- **Comforters**
- **Ensure child is not holding anything in hands**

How often...

Let's play is carried out daily when in the setting and should be carried out the same when at home, however or wherever you are ensuring your child has a choice of two. Whether this is using objects, pictures or symbols your child will begin to acknowledge the names of the objects.