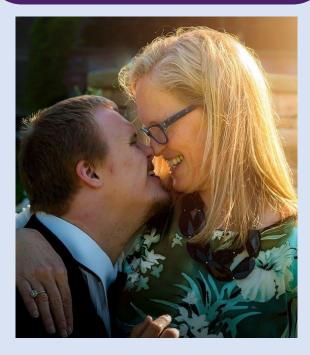


Intensive Interaction

The Approach

Intensive Interaction is a practical approach to interacting with people who find it hard to communicate and helps them to develop their communication skills.

The focus is on spending time with someone in a responsive and sociable way that they can enjoy and relate to.





Do:

BE RESPONSIVE – follow the child's lead.

QUALITY – the interaction should be mutually pleasurable, not task or outcome based.

LOOK at what the child is doing and join in as much as you can without causing distress.

LESS IS MORE – carry out intensive interaction strategies for a short amount of time (especially when first being used) and build it up. It is better to do this little and often.

Don't:

Do NOT force the child to interact – it will take time before any effects are seen. You may be having more impact than you realise!

Do NOT make the child do a certain activity – join un with the activity the child is doing.

Things you can do:

- Share personal space
- Eye contact
- Exchanging facial expressions
- Physical contact
- Copy noises/words the child makes
- Mirror actions the child does
- o Joint-focus activity
- o Joint action
- Leave a gap before responding to develop anticipation.
- o Turn-taking