



{inclusion outreach}

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How Do I Communicate?

Communication can take many forms. The following chart shows some of the ways we might communicate with each other.

How I Communicate	Description
Changes in muscle tone	Any consistent increase or decrease in rigidity as a means of communication.
Physical body movement	Use of movement in the direct pursuit of a goal within a communicative context.
Facial expression	Use of any parts of the face as a means of communication.
Gaze	Looking at a person, object, or place within a communicative context.
Vocalization	Use of vocal sounds which not intelligible as words to the listener, and which may be used for more than one intent.
Pointing	Use of a finger, hand, or foot extended towards an object or person as a means of communication. This does not include direct selection techniques to access photographs, line drawings, or symbols on a communication display.
Other conventional gestures and sign language	Use of socially-learned gestures or pantomime as a means of communication; use of a symbolic gesture taken or adapted from a recognized sign language system; distinctive gestures which are

Respect

Competence

Inclusion

Presence

Choice



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	consistently used by the student to indicate an object, concept, etc.
Photographs, Drawings, or Picture Symbols	Use of pictures or symbols which represent persons, objects, activities, etc. as a means of communication.
Speech	Use of speech, vocal sounds, verbalizations, or electronically-generated speech, which is recognized by the listener, and often consistently used to indicate an object, concept, etc. May be produced orally, or accessed using alternative means such as touch or eye gaze.