

Supplementary document 2: WP3 Parent/professional interview guide

Interview questions for parents and professionals

Demographic information to be collected on parents and professionals

What is your age range?

18-24 years ☐ 25-34 years ☐ 35-44 years ☐ 45 – 54 years ☐ 55-64 years ☐ over 65 years ☐

What is your gender?

Female ☐ Male ☐ prefer not to say ☐

What is your ethnicity?

White - English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British

White –Irish

White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller

White - Any other White background

Mixed/Multiple ethnic group - White and Black Caribbean

Mixed/Multiple ethnic group - White and Black African

Mixed/Multiple ethnic group - White and Asian

Mixed/Multiple ethnic group - Any other Mixed/Multiple ethnic background

Asian/Asian British – Indian

Asian/Asian British – Pakistani

Asian/Asian British – Bangladeshi

Asian/Asian British – Chinese

Asian/Asian British - Any other Asian background

Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British – African

Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British – Caribbean

Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British - Any other Black/African/Caribbean background

Arab

Other

What languages do you speak? _____

How many years working in AAC? (professionals only) _____

How many years of experience in AAC do you have? _____

How much of the week do you spend involved with AAC? _____

Interview topic guide sent out ahead of the interview session

Introduction

My name is _____ and I am a researcher from Manchester Metropolitan University.

Thank you for agreeing to take part in the I-ASC research. We are talking to lots of people who have different experiences of using AAC. And because you are an expert in this, we are here today to find out what you think is important.

	Before we start, based on the information you have been sent, can I check if you have any questions?
	If there are any questions that we ask that you are not comfortable with and would prefer not to answer then that is fine.
	Can I just check that you are happy to continue with the interview?

An Overview of your Communication

1	How would you describe the ways in which named person communicates, does he/she use other methods besides his/her communication aid?
2	Are some of these ways of communicating more successful than others, and why might this be?
3	What electronic communication aid does named person use now?
4	How long have has he/she had this communication aid?
5	Is this his/her first device?

The Assessment

6	Thinking about named person's current device can you tell me about the assessment for this, what happened and who was involved?
7	You have told me that X, Y or Z was involved, what role did they have in the assessment?
8	The process of deciding on which communication aid is very complex. For named person, do you know if there were any priority areas of consideration, such as sitting, looking, access, his/her reading and spelling?
9	In preparing for the assessment, were you asked to provide any reports from your consultant, physio or OT?
10	Can you recall what types of language or vocabulary packages were considered or discussed in the assessment?
11	Do you know how the final decision to choose this communication aid was made?
12	Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the assessment process?
13	Looking back, would you change anything about the assessment? and would you have anyone else involved?
14	Named person has obviously had previous communication aid assessments, was this assessment similar or different to previous ones? In what way?

The Journey

15	Our next few questions will discuss how you got to the point of using this communication aid. I realise it might be quite difficult to remember what was happening when you were at nursery, then in primary school etc. We have a timeline if you would find that helpful.
16	When did Named person get his/her first communication system and what systems has he/she had since then? Is that when he/she was introduced to symbols?
17	Can you remember if he/she used the device mostly at home, at school or somewhere else? And who with?
18	Who funded Jamie's communication aids?
19	Some people use picture symbols with word prediction, Does Named person use word prediction?

Life in General / Reflections

20	We have talked a lot about Jamie's communication aid, thinking about his/her life in general do you think there are particular things that were important in the choice of this device?
21	What things about Named person do you feel have had most impact on the choice of both the past and the present communication systems?
22	Is there anything else you wished you had known when the decision for the current communication aid was made?
23	Is there anything you would change now Named person has this device?
24	Do you think this is the type of device Named person will have for life, or do you see it changing in the future?