

Supplementary document 3: WP3 interview topic guide for children/young people (non symbolised version)

If you agree to participate in this study, you will participate in a conversation with a researcher about your experience with using symbol communication aids and with symbol communication aid assessment. Here are the type of the questions we will ask.

Tell us about your symbol communication aid

What type of communication aid do you have?

How do you access it? What symbols does it have?

Is it a commercial programme or is it custom programmed? What other features does it have?

Do you programme in yourself or does somebody else programme it, if so who?

When do you use it and with who? What kinds of things do you use it for? Do you use it for anything other than communication?

Tell us about any other symbols or communication aids you have had

Have you used other symbol communication aids?

If yes, can you tell me about them? What one did you like best? Why? What features are important?

Did you use it any differently to the one you have now?

Tell us about an assessment you have had for a symbol communication aid

Where was the assessment? Who was there?

Can you remember what happened before the assessment?

What happened when you arrived?

How long did it take? What worked really well?

What did not work? What would you change?

What do you think is helpful in communication aid assessment? Was your experience of communication aid assessment what you expected?

If not what was different?

What things should not happen in an assessment?

What are the most important parts of the assessment for you?

Tell us about using symbol communication in the future

What aspirations do you have? Where does the use of symbol communication aids fit with your aspirations?

Thank you for taking the time to read these questions. If you would like to take part please see the attached information