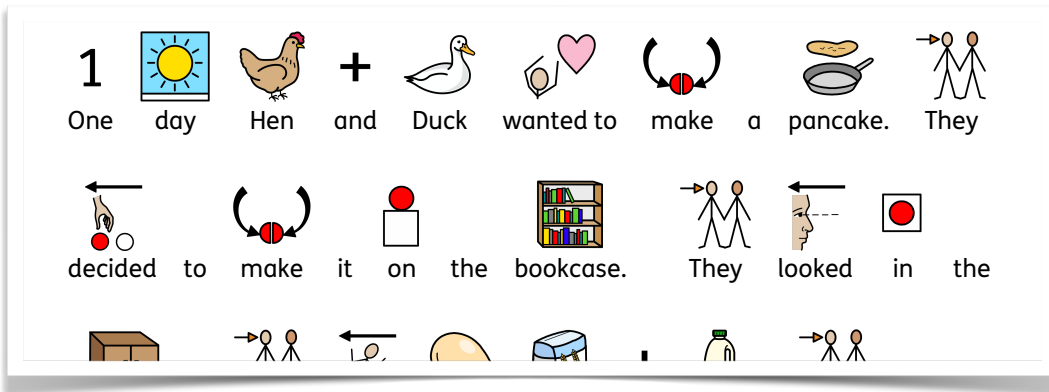


1Voice Newsletter

“A world where the voice of every child and adult, however they communicate, is listened to and heard”



Great fun was had writing Pancake Day stories during our February half-term session online.

Small groups worked together to contribute ideas and build a story using AAC. The young people who joined us had some original and funny ideas for characters to feature in the story, and some hilarious and unusual ideas for pancake fillings!

The story-writing activity was deliberately targeted at AAC users who benefit from a more structured approach, with plenty of time to contribute and communicate. Using a rough story outline, presented with both text and symbols, the story-writers were given plenty of creative licence to take the story off in whatever direction they liked. While some enjoyed including a favourite animal or person as one of the characters, others were motivated by choosing an exciting mode of transport, or introducing an unexpected accident or event.



Eva's 1Voice Memories

One of our role models shares her memories of 1Voice

Easter Event



Hear about our fun at the Easter Event.

Dates for the Diary

Dates for the Diary:

PRETORIAN SMOOTH TALKERS

A huge thank you to Pretorian for their kind donation of a number of smooth talkers. Keep an eye on the website for info.






SOME USEFUL LINKS

A couple of useful links you might want to check out.

ROLE MODEL TRAINING

Update on the Role Model Training Sessions












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







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






       











        









       











      









        








         










       

Ewan and Lucy's Pancake Story

(other stories will be on the website soon!)

Thank you Widget!

Many thanks to Widget for their generous donation of a Widge Online licence. We're delighted with our lovely new resource and are looking forward to sharing more of our members work with it.



The 1-voice logo made it onto page 39 of Motorcycle News on May 12th 2021.

The story was about Steph Jeavons, the international motorcycle traveller, who is launching a new business called Moto Junkies.

The newspaper was recounting some of her adventures. One of our trustees, Amanda Hynan, was part of the first all female group of motorcyclists that travelled with Steph to Everest base camp in Tibet in September 2019. She raised £2,600 for 1-Voice through very generous supporters.

Easter Virtual Meet Up

14 individuals/families joined us for our virtual Easter meet up. The event got off to a fun and energetic start with Sign Out Loud (1Voice trustees, Sally and Kate) leading us through a number of upbeat songs. We decided to try something new and for the first time in our virtual format, we ran parallel sessions.

Those less confident with their AAC system took part in fun activities aimed at encouraging their communication. Among other things we learnt about people's favourite colours, food animals and what makes them happy. As it turned out they were all different and included turquoise, quiche, the skate park and various dinosaurs! Those who are at a more confident stage were invited to a presentation/chat session. Eva gave her first public presentation, and shared her 1Voice memories with the group. Helen, a 1Voice Trustee and Role Model, shared her lockdown experience. This was then followed by an open chat. Those attending were keen to share their news with one another. It was lovely to see some members who have not attended a 1Voice event for a while.

The event went out with a bang with DJ Oli providing the disco tunes.



Want to be a buddy?

Role Model Program

1Voice role models are offering a fantastic opportunity to meet regularly with a buddy and their families to show how successfully using AAC can create many opportunities in different areas of life. Meet ups can take place remotely and face to face if safe and convenient.



Please email: 1voice-admin@1voice.info if you are interested!

Dates for the Diary

Online Event: Saturday 5th June 2pm to 4pm. Come and join us for lots of fun and chatter on the 5th June. There will be a mix of groups offering structured activities or presentations and a chat, so that everyone feels welcome.

Save the Date : National Residential Weekend 20th to 23rd August at Bendrigg Trust Centre, The Lakes. We're still unable to confirm that the residential weekend will go ahead. If we are able to hold the weekend it's very likely to be at reduced capacity, so that we can be covid compliant. We're hoping that we will have some good news soon, so please keep checking the website the latest updates.

Bendrigg Activity Weekend: 8th to 10th October. We have another weekend planned for our always popular Activity Weekends at The Bendrigg Trust.

To book, or for more details, please contact:
1voice-admin@1voice.info

WE NEED YOUR CONTENT

As part of a new look Newsletter and Website, we need your help.

Send us updates, new items, articles, and anything of interest.

Contact us through Facebook, send emails to webmaster@1voice.info, messages through the website, on twitter, or even over the phone!



Following on from our first 1voice Role Model residential back in June 2019, we planned some sessions over the Easter holidays.

With the Pandemic and lockdown in full swing, we met via Zoom to help refresh the key messages and what role models are as well as planning the next steps.

The training over Easter was delivered in three stages; a session to remind us what we did when we met in June '19, a session to tell new 1Voice Role Models more and a final session to plan next steps with everyone together. We had good attendance at all three sessions and achieved what we set out to do which is to create opportunities within 1Voice for Role Models.

But what is a 'role model'? We agreed that this is someone one has been with 1Voice for a while and who can support new members, perhaps by buddying up to tell them more and help them make friends or to help organise events/games and when 1Voice can meet again, to have an important role in 'meet and greet', facilitate workshops and activities and generally look after new families and younger members.

The training sessions were interactive and together we prepared a development plan, this includes things that 1Voice can do, how Communication Matters can further support the project through the funding provided by the National Lottery Community Fund and also what 1Voice Role Models can do too.

This is an exciting project and we look forward to working with 1Voice over the coming months to help create some resources and offer more training opportunities.

If you would like to know more about 1Voice Role Models then please contact:

1voice-admin@1voice.info



For more information about Communication Matters funding for a wide range of learning and development opportunities relating to peer support, personal and social development and mentoring then please go to the link below:

<https://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/what-we-do/projects/mentoring-project/>



Eva's 1Voice Memories

At our Easter event one of our young role models, Eva, gave a presentation on her 1 Voice memories. The presentation was enjoyed by everyone in her group and was the starting point for lots of fun and interesting conversation. This article is based on Eva's presentation.

My name is Eva. I am 15 years old. I've used AAC since I was 5 years old. I live with my mum, dad, two brothers, two cats and a dog. I like to go swimming and shopping with my Auntie. I like going to school.

I have been to every National Weekend since my 8th birthday. I enjoy activities on the Saturday and Sunday. Saturday evening is the disco. I have had great weekends.

I went to 1Voice1Day in September 2019. I did activities in the mornings. I joined the tea party with CM (Communications Matters) in the afternoon. They had all sorts of giant games. I had a very good day.

I have been to Bendrigg activity weekends. I have enjoyed challenging and fun activities. I have done zip wire, caving, crate stacking, tube slide, the big swing and games. I liked zip wire, caving and the big swing the best.

I went on holiday with 3 of my 1Voice friends. We were 1Voice on Tour! I did orienteering around the centre, canoeing, zip wire, bushcraft and the big swing. I liked the zip wire and the big swing. I liked the week because I was with my friends and it was really nice.

I am also a 1 Voice Role Model. I enjoy helping new families at the national weekends.



USEFUL LINKS:

Top Tips from users of AAC

<https://>

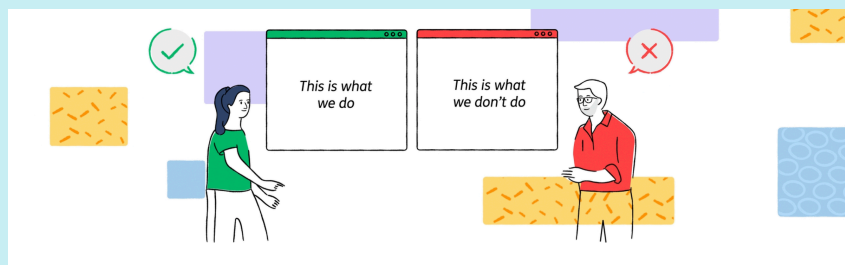
www.communicationmatters.org.uk/

10-top-tips-to-tip-top-aacommunication



AAC Do's and Dont's

(<https://www.assistiveware.com/blog/overview-dos-and-donts-aac>)



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