DO's and DON'Ts of AAC

✔ Do use the AAC system to talk yourself

✔ Do aim high

✔ Do use a well designed, comprehensive vocabulary e.g. core vocabulary or PODD

✔ Do provide enough wait time

✔ Do ask open ended questions

✔ Do focus on key words when modelling

✔ Do respect multi-modal communication

✔ Do allow exploration and access to the whole vocabulary

✔ Do make sure AAC is available all day, every day

✔ Do describe what you want to say using core words

✘ Don't expect the AAC user to communicate without you modelling how

✘ Don't demand prerequisite skills

✘ Don't provide an AAC system with only a handful of choices

✘ Don't do all the talking

✘ Don't ask questions the AAC user knows you already know the answer to

✘ Don't think you need to always model grammatically complete sentences

✘ Don't say "And now say it on your talker"

✘ Don't create custom pages for specific activities

✘ Don't limit access to the AAC system

✘ Don't focus on adding lots of vocabulary