

**AAC LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

The learning opportunities section of IPAACKS is still being developed, however we have provided some information which may be helpful to you if you are applying for funding via the AAC Learning and Development Fund. Some of the learning opportunities listed have no cost (apart from your time), others have a cost/fee. For more information about any of the learning opportunities listed, please check out the website provided.

You need to identify your own learning and development needs in association with your line-manager and/or CPD provider. The learning opportunities and other resources listed here are examples of what is available within the UK and online. Not all will be relevant to your post or role in relation to people who use AAC.

Because a course or other materials has been listed within this resource does not mean that it has been endorsed in any way by NHS Education for Scotland, nor should it be taken as an indication of quality. The information provided is accurate as at 03/02/2014.

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AAC AWARE				
Learning need	Learning opportunity	Brief description	Website	Provider
Have you heard of AAC before? Do you need a greater awareness of AAC for your job?	Ways to communicate – an introduction to Augmentative and Alternative Communication	A short animated video which explores different ways of communicating	<a href="http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Watch-the-Videos/">http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Watch-the-Videos/</a>	CALL Scotland/NHS Education for Scotland
	How many ways are there to communicate?	A short video collage showing clips of people using AAC to communicate	<a href="http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Watch-the-Videos/">http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Watch-the-Videos/</a>	
	A Right to Speak	On-line learning module about the importance of communication, the many different ways to communicate, and an introduction to ways to support people with communication difficulties	<a href="http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Online-Learning-Module/">http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Online-Learning-Module/</a>	
	What is AAC?	One of the <i>Focus on</i> series of leaflets explaining AAC	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/focuson/What_is_AAC_A4.pdf">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/focuson/What_is_AAC_A4.pdf</a>	Communication Matters
	The power of communication	DVD providing an introduction to AAC. Available to purchase from Communication Matters or to preview online	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/dvd-and-video-download">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/dvd-and-video-download</a>	
Would your organisation or team benefit from being more aware of AAC and communication support needs?	Talk for Scotland Toolkit	Online toolkit for service providers, offering key advice on methods of engaging with people who have a range of communication support needs	<a href="http://www.communicationforumscotland.org.uk/2010/TK_Home.php">http://www.communicationforumscotland.org.uk/2010/TK_Home.php</a>	Communication Forum Scotland
	Right to Speak posters	Downloadable posters	<a href="http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Posters/">http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Posters/</a>	CALL Scotland/NHS Education for Scotland
	Focus on .... leaflets	A series of 8 downloadable leaflets on	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/</a>	Communication

		various AAC related topics	<a href="#">page/focus-on-download</a>	Matters
	Making communication even better	On-line DVD and learner’s workbook – designed as a learning resource for health, education, social work and voluntary sector staff who want to make their service more accessible for people with communication support needs	<a href="http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/education-and-training/by-discipline/allied-health-professions/about-nes-ahp/resources-and-publications/making-communication-even-better.aspx">http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/education-and-training/by-discipline/allied-health-professions/about-nes-ahp/resources-and-publications/making-communication-even-better.aspx</a>	NHS Education for Scotland

**CORE VALUES AND COMMITMENTS**

**WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP**

<b>Learning need</b>	<b>Learning opportunity</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Website</b>	<b>Provider</b>
Do you need to learn how to involve people who use AAC in your service, in making decisions etc?	10 essential shared capabilities supporting person centred approaches	An online resource which has been developed for healthcare staff – but which is applicable to other groups - to support their learning and development in person centred, rights and values based approaches	<a href="http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/education-and-training/by-theme-initiative/mental-health-and-learning-disabilities/publications-and-resources/publications-repository/10-essential-shared-capabilities-supporting-person-centred-approaches.aspx">http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/education-and-training/by-theme-initiative/mental-health-and-learning-disabilities/publications-and-resources/publications-repository/10-essential-shared-capabilities-supporting-person-centred-approaches.aspx</a>	NHS Education for Scotland

**PROMOTING POSITIVE INTERACTION**

Do you need to learn more about communication, the impact of having a communication support need, and what you can do to help?	A Right to Speak	On-line learning module about the importance of communication, the many different ways to communicate, and an introduction to ways to support people with communication difficulties	<a href="http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Online-Learning-Module/">http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Online-Learning-Module/</a>	CALL Scotland/NHS Education for Scotland
	Communicating with patients who have speech/language difficulties	One of the <i>Focus on</i> series of leaflets – with information for staff working in a medical/health setting	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/focuson/Communicating_with_Patients_A4.pdf">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/focuson/Communicating_with_Patients_A4.pdf</a>	Communication Matters
	Speaking with someone who uses AAC	One of the <i>Focus on</i> series of leaflets – with guidance from people who use AAC	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/focuson/Speaking_with_someone_who_uses_AAC_A4.pdf">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/focuson/Speaking_with_someone_who_uses_AAC_A4.pdf</a>	Communication Matters

	Making communication even better	On-line DVD and learner’s workbook, created by people with communication support needs – designed as a learning resource for health, education, social work and voluntary sector staff	<a href="http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/education-and-training/by-discipline/allied-health-professions/about-nes-ahp/resources-and-publications/making-communication-even-better.aspx">http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/education-and-training/by-discipline/allied-health-professions/about-nes-ahp/resources-and-publications/making-communication-even-better.aspx</a>	NHS Education for Scotland
	Talking Mats online course Online, with scheduled Skype contact with Talking Mats trainers and a participants’ online forum.	4 modules over 3 months	<a href="http://www.talkingmats.com/training/online-training/">http://www.talkingmats.com/training/online-training/</a>	Talking Mats Ltd
	Ways to communicate – an introduction to Augmentative and Alternative Communication	A short animated video which explores different ways of communicating.	<a href="http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Watch-the-Videos/">http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Watch-the-Videos/</a>	CALL Scotland/NHS Education for Scotland
Do you need a basic understanding of what AAC is?	How many ways are there to communicate?	A short video collage showing clips of people using AAC to communicate.	<a href="http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Watch-the-Videos/">http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Watch-the-Videos/</a>	CALL Scotland/NHS Education for Scotland
	A Right to Speak	On-line learning module about the importance of communication, the many different ways to communicate, and an introduction to ways to support people with communication difficulties.	<a href="http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Online-Learning-Module/">http://www.aacscotland.org.uk/Online-Learning-Module/</a>	
	Focus On ..... Leaflets	A series of 8 downloadable leaflets on various AAC related topics.	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/focus-on-download">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/focus-on-download</a>	Communication Matters
	The power of communication DVD	DVD providing an introduction to AAC. Available to purchase from Communication Matters or to preview online.	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/dvd-and-video-download">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/dvd-and-video-download</a>	

AAC SPECIFIC STRANDS				
IDENTIFYING NEED				
Learning need	Learning opportunity	Brief description	Website	Provider
Do you need to learn about different AAC services in your area?	Augmentative Communication in Practice: Scotland	Augmentative Communication in Practice: Scotland is a Scottish-wide network of people involved in AAC. The website has information about AAC services and AAC related events	<a href="http://www.acipscotland.org.uk/">http://www.acipscotland.org.uk/</a>	Augmentative Communication in Practice: Scotland
	Communication Matters	Communication Matters maintains a list of the major AAC assessment services throughout the UK	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/resources/aac-assessment-services">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/resources/aac-assessment-services</a>	Communication Matters
Do you need to have an up-to-date awareness of the range of AAC options?	Communication Matters RoadShow	AAC product demonstrations presented by AAC suppliers, throughout the UK 1 day	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/road-shows">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/road-shows</a>	Communication Matters
Do you need to have an awareness of a wider range of assistive technologies (including AAC equipment)?	ICT and Inclusion	Presentations and exhibition of technology to support students with additional support needs, including AAC 1 day	<a href="http://www.ictandinclusion.org.uk/Home/">http://www.ictandinclusion.org.uk/Home/</a>	CALL Scotland
	RAatE Conference	Annual conference and exhibition focused on the latest innovations and developments in assistive technology 1 day	<a href="http://www.raate.org.uk/">http://www.raate.org.uk/</a>	RAatE (Recent Advances in Assistive Technology and Engineering)
AAC ASSESSMENT				
Learning need	Learning opportunity	Brief description	Website	Provider
Do you need to have a better understanding of	CM Annual Symposium	Annual conference – including workshops, seminars, presentations and	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/conference">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/conference</a>	Communication Matters

the AAC assessment process?		product exhibition 2.5 days		
	Supporting children and adults using AAC	A training course for staff working with children and adults who use AAC. The course includes an overview of assessment issues 2 days (or 5 weekly sessions)	<a href="http://www.elklan.co.uk/courses/practitioners/supporting-children-and-adults-using-aac">http://www.elklan.co.uk/courses/practitioners/supporting-children-and-adults-using-aac</a>	Elklan
	AAC Unit	Exploration of the needs of individuals with complex communication difficulties, critical evaluation of the available range of AAC resources and strategies, examination of the issues of assessment, implementation, support and training. 4 days	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/aac-unit">http://acecentre.org.uk/aac-unit</a>	ACE Centre
	Assistive Technology Unit	Introduction to the use of Assistive Technology to support communication and learning. Taught at the ACE Centre in Oldham. 4 days	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/assistive-technology-unit">http://acecentre.org.uk/assistive-technology-unit</a>	ACE Centre
	Certificate in Professional Studies Stage 1 Inclusive Education (Assistive Technology)	This course covers the content of the Assistive Technology Unit, but with the additional requirement for students to complete written assignments and evidence their work based learning. Tutors at ACE Centre provide telephone and email support in addition to tutorial	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/level-5">http://acecentre.org.uk/level-5</a>	ACE Centre/ Manchester Metropolitan University

		appointments. 1 unit over 1 year		
	Certificate in Professional Studies Inclusive Education (Assistive Technology)	Taught days at the ACE Centre in Oldham combined with independent study and written tasks. Tutors at ACE Centre provide telephone and email support in addition to tutorial appointments. Participants choose 1 unit from a choice of 3 in year 2: AAC; access and control of technology for communication and learning; software to support written communication and learning 2 units (30 credits each) completed over 2 years	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/level-6-certificate-in-professional-studies-inclusive-education-assistive-technology">http://acecentre.org.uk/level-6-certificate-in-professional-studies-inclusive-education-assistive-technology</a>	ACE Centre/ Manchester Metropolitan University
	Postgraduate Certificate in Special Educational Needs (Assistive Technology)	Taught days at the ACE Centre in Oldham combined with independent study and written tasks. Tutors at ACE Centre provide telephone and email support in addition to tutorial appointments. 2 units completed over 2 years 30 credits per unit	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/level-7-postgraduate-certificate-in-special-educational-needs-assistive-technology">http://acecentre.org.uk/level-7-postgraduate-certificate-in-special-educational-needs-assistive-technology</a>	ACE/ Manchester Metropolitan University
	Masters Module: Evidence based assessment in complex communication needs	This course is delivered in Manchester and can be taken as part of the MSc Professional Practice Development, as a stand alone unit or together with the unit on Evidence based intervention in	<a href="http://www.hpsc.mmu.ac.uk/aac/">http://www.hpsc.mmu.ac.uk/aac/</a>	Manchester Metropolitan University

		complex communication needs 3 days full-time Plus submission of essay and case study 20 credits at Masters level		
<b>IMPLEMENTATION</b>				
Do you need to learn how to develop functional and effective communication via AAC?	You Matter	This training course is for teachers, teaching assistants and therapists and parents. It aims to provide practical and positive ways forward to developing the child's use of AAC. Contact ACE Centre to find out if there is a course running in your area. 8 sessions over 2 full days (or 4 half days)	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/you-matter">http://acecentre.org.uk/you-matter</a>	ACE Centre
	Supporting Children and Adults using AAC	A training course for staff working with children and adults who use AAC. The course covers an overview of AAC, assessment and unaided communication. 2 days (or 5 weekly sessions)	<a href="http://www.elklan.co.uk/courses/practitioners/supporting-children-and-adults-using-aac">http://www.elklan.co.uk/courses/practitioners/supporting-children-and-adults-using-aac</a>	Elklan
	AAC Unit	Exploration of the needs of individuals with complex communication difficulties, critical evaluation of the available range of AAC resources and strategies, examination of the issues of assessment, implementation, support and training. 4 days	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/aac-unit">http://acecentre.org.uk/aac-unit</a>	ACE Centre
	Assistive Technology Unit	Introduction to the use of Assistive	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/assistive-">http://acecentre.org.uk/assistive-</a>	ACE Centre



		Technology to support communication and learning. Taught at the ACE Centre in Oldham 4 days	<a href="#">technology-unit</a>	
	Certificate in Professional Studies Stage 1 Inclusive Education (Assistive Technology)	This course covers the content of the Assistive Technology Unit, but with the additional requirement for students to complete written assignments and evidence their work based learning. Tutors at ACE Centre provide telephone and email support in addition to tutorial appointments. 1 unit over 1 year	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/level-5">http://acecentre.org.uk/level-5</a>	ACE Centre/ Manchester Metropolitan University
	Certificate in Professional Studies Inclusive Education (Assistive Technology)	Taught days at the ACE Centre in Oldham combined with independent study and written tasks. Tutors at ACE Centre provide telephone and email support in addition to tutorial appointments. Participants choose 1 unit from a choice of 3 in year 2: AAC; access and control of technology for communication and learning; software to support written communication and learning 2 units (30 credits each) completed over 2 years	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/level-6-certificate-in-professional-studies-inclusive-education-assistive-technology">http://acecentre.org.uk/level-6-certificate-in-professional-studies-inclusive-education-assistive-technology</a>	ACE Centre/ Manchester Metropolitan University

	Masters Module: Evidence based intervention in complex communication needs	This course is delivered in Manchester and can be taken as part of the MSc Professional Practice Development, as a stand alone unit or together with the unit on Evidence based assessment in complex communication needs 3 days full-time Plus submission of essay and case study 20 credits	<a href="http://www.hpsc.mmu.ac.uk/aac/">http://www.hpsc.mmu.ac.uk/aac/</a>	Manchester Metropolitan University
Do you need to know about alternative access to AAC technology, about the impact of positioning on the effective use of technology for communication and learning, about techniques to support users of AAC technology?	Access Unit	Taught at the ACE Centre in Oldham. Exploration of the strategies and equipment to support physical access and control of technology for communication and learning. 4 days	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/access-unit">http://acecentre.org.uk/access-unit</a>	ACE Centre
Do you need to have an up-to-date awareness of the range of AAC options and approaches to inform your work with the individual using AAC?	Communication Matters RoadShow	AAC product demonstrations presented by AAC suppliers, throughout the UK 1 day	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/road-shows">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/road-shows</a>	Communication Matters
	Speech Bubble	Searchable website with information about communication aids available in the UK	<a href="http://speechbubble.org.uk/">http://speechbubble.org.uk/</a> <b>THIS WEBSITE HAS BEEN DISABLED</b>	ACE Centre
	Augmentative Communication in Practice: Scotland Study Days	Study day on a range of AAC related topics – usually held once a year.	<a href="http://www.acipscotland.org.uk/">http://www.acipscotland.org.uk/</a>	Augmentative Communication

		1 day		in Practice: Scotland
	AAC Special Interest Groups (SIGs) OR Clinical Excellence Networks (CENs)	There are a number of AAC SIGs throughout the UK. These groups run study days and/or meetings on a range of AAC topics. Usually these study days/meetings are open to all interested parties. To find your nearest AAC SIG, contact RCSLT 0.5 or 1 day	<a href="http://www.rcslt.org/">http://www.rcslt.org/</a> - ACCESS TO THIS SECTION OF THE WEBSITE IS RESTRICTED TO RCSLT MEMBERS	Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists
<b>Do you need to learn more about a specific AAC technique/communication aid in order to support the person using AAC better?</b>				
Do you need to know more about a specific high-tech AAC system/computer program/communication aid?	Training provided by suppliers of AAC products and services	Suppliers will usually provide training associated with their products. A range of formats may be available: online and face to face. Check out the individual suppliers' website to identify what is available, and whether there is a charge.	Check out the individual supplier websites. A listing for some suppliers of AAC products and services can be found at <a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/resources/aac-suppliers">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/resources/aac-suppliers</a>	AAC suppliers
	Specialist AAC assessment services	You nearest specialist AAC service may provide training in different AAC systems. Contact the specific service directly to ascertain eligibility to attend. There may be geographical or budgetary exclusions to being able to attend these sessions. A range of formats may be available: online and face to face.	Contact your nearest AAC service to find out what training is available (a listing for these services can be found at <a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/resources/aac-assessment-services">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/resources/aac-assessment-services</a> )	Specialist AAC services

Do you need to be able to use <b>Makaton</b> with the people you work with?	Makaton Foundation Workshop	Face to face , practical courses in a number of locations throughout the UK. Online post code search to find local training. 4 modules over 2 days	<a href="http://www.makaton.org/training/makatonForProfessionals/foundationWorkshop">http://www.makaton.org/training/makatonForProfessionals/foundationWorkshop</a>	Makaton
	Makaton Enhancement Workshop	Face to face , practical courses in a number of locations throughout the UK. Online post code search to find local training. 6 modules over 3 days	<a href="http://www.makaton.org/training/makatonForProfessionals/enhancementWorkshop">http://www.makaton.org/training/makatonForProfessionals/enhancementWorkshop</a>	
Do you need to be able to use <b>SignAlong</b> with the people you work with?	SignAlong Introductory Session	Face to face, practical use of signing . 0.5 or 1 day	<a href="http://www.signalong.org.uk/trainers/index.htm">http://www.signalong.org.uk/trainers/index.htm</a>	SignAlong
	SignAlong Foundation Course	Skills based course, developing understanding and use of signing. 15 hours		
	Introductory Level 1	Introductory course providing a grounding in the skills needed for sign-supported communication (accredited by the Open College Network). 10 hours – 1 credit		
	Intermediate Level 2	This course develops the themes of the Foundation course (accredited by the Open College Network). 30 hours – 3 credits		
Do you need to know about the <b>Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS)</b> for your	Basic PECS workshop	Basic accredited training in PECS. 2 days	<a href="http://www.pecs-unitedkingdom.com/attendworkshop.php">http://www.pecs-unitedkingdom.com/attendworkshop.php</a>	Pyramid Educational Consultants UK
	PECS advanced training	This course provides further in-depth training in the PECS approach.		

work?		2 days		
Would <b>Talking Mats</b> be a useful approach to use in your workplace? Do you need to know how to use Talking Mats with your clients?	Talking Mats Training course	Face to face, practical courses run in a number of locations throughout the UK. 1 day (either 1 full day or 2 x half days)	<a href="http://www.talkingmats.com/training/">http://www.talkingmats.com/training/</a>	Talking Mats Ltd
	Talking Mats online course	Online, with scheduled Skype contact with Talking Mats trainers and a participants' online forum. 4 modules over 3 months		

**AAC TECHNOLOGY: PREPARATION, ADAPTATION AND INTEGRATION**

<b>Do you need to know how to use a particular software package to create low-tech AAC resources and communication books?</b>				
Do you need to know how to use <b>BoardMaker</b> software products?	BoardMaker training	Online training/webinars	<a href="http://uk.mayer-johnson.com/default.aspx">http://uk.mayer-johnson.com/default.aspx</a>	Mayer-Johnson
		Face to face training	<a href="http://www.mayer-johnson.com/pdf/booklets/uk/BSF_UKtraining_web.pdf">http://www.mayer-johnson.com/pdf/booklets/uk/BSF_UKtraining_web.pdf</a>	Mayer-Johnson accredited trainers
		Your local AAC service may run Boardmaker training sessions. Contact your local AAC centre to find out about availability and to ascertain eligibility to attend. There may be geographical or budgetary exclusions to being able to attend these sessions.	Contact your nearest AAC service (a listing for these services can be found at <a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/resources/aac-assessment-services">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/resources/aac-assessment-services</a> )	Local AAC service

Do you need to know how to use <b>Widgit Symbol</b> software products?	Widgit software training	Widgit support a network of centres across the UK who can offer advice and support across the range of Widgit products.	<a href="http://www.widgit.com/centres/index.htm">http://www.widgit.com/centres/index.htm</a>	Widgit
		Your local AAC service may run Widgit software training sessions. Contact your local AAC centre to find out about availability and to ascertain eligibility to attend. There may be geographical or budgetary exclusions to being able to attend these sessions.	Contact your nearest AAC service (a listing for these services can be found at <a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/resources/aac-assessment-services">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/resources/aac-assessment-services</a> )	Local AAC service
Do you need to know about assistive technology, and the integration of AAC with other technologies?	RAATE Conference	Annual conference and exhibition focused on the latest innovations and developments in assistive technology. 1 day	<a href="http://www.raate.org.uk/">http://www.raate.org.uk/</a>	RAATE
	CM Annual Symposium	Annual conference – including workshops, seminars, presentations and product exhibition. 2.5 days	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/conference">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/conference</a>	Communication Matters
	Certificate in Professional Studies Inclusive Education (Assistive Technology)	Taught days at the ACE Centre in Oldham combined with independent study and written tasks. Tutors at ACE Centre provide telephone and email support in addition to tutorial appointments. Participants choose 1 unit from a choice of 3 in year 2: AAC; access and control of technology for communication and	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/level-6-certificate-in-professional-studies-inclusive-education-assistive-technology">http://acecentre.org.uk/level-6-certificate-in-professional-studies-inclusive-education-assistive-technology</a>	ACE Centre/ Manchester Metropolitan University

		learning; software to support written communication and learning. 2 units (30 credits each) completed over 2 years		
<b>AAC TECHNOLOGY: EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT</b>				
Do you need to know about procurement, safe use, maintenance and repair of communication aids?	Medical devices in practice	This E-learning module is in the form of checklists and advice on procurement, safe use, record keeping, maintenance and repair, and sets out guidance for reporting device related adverse incidents. There are some downloadable leaflets and checklists. 15 minutes	<a href="http://www.mhra.gov.uk/ConferencesLearningCentre/LearningCentre/Deviceslearningmodules/Devicesinpractice/index.htm">http://www.mhra.gov.uk/ConferencesLearningCentre/LearningCentre/Deviceslearningmodules/Devicesinpractice/index.htm</a>	Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)
Do you need to be able to find out information about the different AAC systems available?	Speech Bubble	Searchable website with information about communication aids available in the UK.	<a href="http://speechbubble.org.uk/">http://speechbubble.org.uk/</a> THIS WEBSITE HAS BEEN DISABLED	ACE Centre
	Communication Matters RoadShow	AAC product demonstrations presented by AAC suppliers, throughout the UK. 1 day	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/road-shows">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/road-shows</a>	Communication Matters
	CM Annual Symposium	Annual conference – including workshops, seminars, presentations and product exhibition. 2.5 days	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/conference">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/conference</a>	
<b>AAC LEADERSHIP</b>				
Would you benefit from developing your	The Good Practice Leadership Toolkit	A resource for senior managers to develop leadership skills, achieve	<a href="http://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/home/portals-and-topics/Goodpractice.aspx">http://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/home/portals-and-topics/Goodpractice.aspx</a>	Good Practice

understanding of “leadership” in order to equip you with skills to develop in your AAC leadership role?		performance through people and development of strategic focus.  This is now hosted on the Knowledge Network site – you will require an Athens log to access these resources		
	Working with care: Improving working relations in health care	A downloadable publication with tools to support examination of interactions with colleagues, aiming at enhancement of positive interactions and to increased awareness of negative interactions.	<a href="http://www.rcn.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/78638/002487.pdf">http://www.rcn.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/78638/002487.pdf</a>	Royal College of Nursing
<b>AAC Specific</b>				
Do you need to be aware of local/national AAC policies and procedures?	CM Annual Symposium	Annual conference – including workshops, seminars, presentations and product exhibition. 2.5 days	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/conference">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/conference</a>	Communication Matters
Do you need to know about a range of research methodologies appropriate for AAC and to keep up to date with research into AAC related issues?	CM Annual Symposium	Annual conference – including workshops, seminars, presentations and product exhibition 2.5 days	<a href="http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/conference">http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/conference</a>	Communication Matters
	Biennial International Conference (and optional pre-conference workshops and research symposium)	Workshops, seminars, presentations and product exhibition – with an international slant. Pre-conference workshops – 2 days Conference - 4 days Research symposium - 2 days	<a href="https://www.isaac-online.org/english/home/">https://www.isaac-online.org/english/home/</a>	International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC)
	Postgraduate Certificate in	Taught days at the ACE Centre in	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/level-7-">http://acecentre.org.uk/level-7-</a>	ACE/



	Special Educational Needs (Assistive Technology)	Oldham combined with independent study and written tasks. Tutors at ACE Centre provide telephone and email support in addition to tutorial appointments. 2 units completed over 2 years 30 credits per unit	<a href="http://www.hpsc.mmu.ac.uk/aac/postgraduate-certificate-in-special-educational-needs-assistive-technology">postgraduate-certificate-in-special-educational-needs-assistive-technology</a>	Manchester Metropolitan University
	Masters Module: Evidence based assessment in complex communication needs	This course is delivered in Manchester and can be taken as part of the MSc Professional Practice Development, as a stand alone unit or together with the unit on Evidence based intervention in complex communication needs 3 days full-time Plus submission of essay and case study 20 credits at Masters level	<a href="http://www.hpsc.mmu.ac.uk/aac/">http://www.hpsc.mmu.ac.uk/aac/</a>	Manchester Metropolitan University
	Masters Module: Evidence based intervention in complex communication needs	This course is delivered in Manchester and can be taken as part of the MSc Professional Practice Development, as a stand alone unit or together with the unit on Evidence based assessment in complex communication needs 3 days full-time Plus submission of essay and case study 20 credits	<a href="http://www.hpsc.mmu.ac.uk/aac/">http://www.hpsc.mmu.ac.uk/aac/</a>	Manchester Metropolitan University
	MSc in AAC	This is a taught MSc, with an AAC research dissertation, focussing on the design, evaluation and utilisation of AAC	<a href="http://www.dundee.ac.uk/psychology/study/masters/mscaac/">http://www.dundee.ac.uk/psychology/study/masters/mscaac/</a>	University of Dundee

		technology. 1 year full-time or 2 years part-time (also available with exit at Certificate of Higher Education in AAC and Diploma in AAC)		
<b>FACILITATING AAC LEARNING</b> <b>(some of the resources listed in the AAC Aware section may be of relevance here)</b>				
Would you benefit from developing your understanding of method of training others, learning styles etc in order to equip you with the skills to develop in your Facilitating AAC Learning role?	Flying Start NHS	Resources and activities relating to learning and development. Developed for newly qualified practitioners but useful for all healthcare professionals.	<a href="http://www.flyingstart.scot.nhs.uk/learning-programmes/cpd/lifelong-learning.aspx">http://www.flyingstart.scot.nhs.uk/learning-programmes/cpd/lifelong-learning.aspx</a>	NHS Education for Scotland
	Testing for the Best in Educational Development	Resource relating to creative thinking about education and training; to help planners, and learning and development specialists.	<a href="http://www.test4best.scot.nhs.uk/">http://www.test4best.scot.nhs.uk/</a>	
<b>AAC specific</b>				
Do you work with <b>children and young people</b> ? Do you need to be able to provide AAC related training for the team around the child?	You Matter	This is a self-delivered training course for teachers, teaching assistants and therapists that brings together parents of children with significant speech difficulties and their supporting professionals. Materials and handouts are provided. 8 sessions over 2 full days (or 4 half days)	<a href="http://acecentre.org.uk/you-matter">http://acecentre.org.uk/you-matter</a>	ACE Centre
Do you need to be able to <b>deliver accredited training</b>	Elklan specialist training package: supporting children	This course equips tutors to provide practical, accredited training to those	<a href="http://www.elklan.co.uk/courses/TTP/STP-supporting-children-and-adults-using-aac">http://www.elklan.co.uk/courses/TTP/STP-supporting-children-and-adults-using-aac</a>	Elklan

on AAC to individuals or teams supporting people who use AAC?	and adults using AAC	supporting ALL users of AAC. Participants who are not existing Ekklan tutors can attend but will be licensed to train others on the <i>Supporting children and adults using AAC</i> course only.		
Do you need to be able to train people to <b>use Talking Mats</b> ?	Accredited training in Talking Mats	This course prepares people to become Talking Mats trainers in their own organisations. 2 days residential course	<a href="http://www.talkingmats.com/training/train-the-trainers-accredited-training/">http://www.talkingmats.com/training/train-the-trainers-accredited-training/</a>	Talking Mats Ltd
Do you need to be able to run <b>Makaton</b> workshops in your area?	Makaton local tutor training	This course enables people to deliver training for parents, carers and staff within their own work place. They also act as co-ordinators, identifying need and advising on appropriate input. 3 days with 1 follow-up practical assessment day	<a href="http://www.makaton.org/training/howToBecomeAMakatonTutor/makatonLocalTutorTraining">http://www.makaton.org/training/howToBecomeAMakatonTutor/makatonLocalTutorTraining</a>	Makaton
Do you regularly need to provide support to staff learning <b>Makaton</b> ? Do you need to provide more in-depth, or more varied, Makaton training?	Makaton Regional Tutor Training	Prepares people to deliver all of the standardised Makaton Workshops and to provide support to others around them. 5 day residential plus a follow up assessment	<a href="http://www.makaton.org/training/howToBecomeAMakatonTutor/makatonRegionalTutorTraining">http://www.makaton.org/training/howToBecomeAMakatonTutor/makatonRegionalTutorTraining</a>	
Do you need to be able to run <b>SignAlong</b> workshops?	SignAlong Tutor Training	This course is for people who wish to train others in Signalong. 5 consecutive days – an completion of a trainee handbook	<a href="http://www.signalong.org.uk/trainers/index.htm">http://www.signalong.org.uk/trainers/index.htm</a>	SignAlong