

## FAQs

### What will we need to bring?

Please bring a packed snack, drink bottle and hat for outdoor activities.

### Can parents sit in on sessions?

The aims of this group are to develop peer relationships. To protect participants confidentiality and support friendship development parents are not able to sit in.

### How will I know what is being covered in the groups?

Caregivers will be provided access to resources electronically for the duration of the group, and receive verbal feedback and information in the last 15 minutes of the day.

### Are groups a good use of my funding?

Group programs are charged at a much lower rate than individual sessions making them a very cost effective way to learn and practice skills in a more natural manner than individual sessions.

### Will I receive an individual report?

There will not be individual written reports as the groups focus on providing learning opportunities rather than assessing children.

## Talking Matters



**Helping your  
child reach their  
potential**

## How to book

### Getting started is easy.

Just speak to your Talking Matters therapist or admin staff for information. Registration is completed online via the Talking Matters website at <https://www.talkingmatters.com.au/about-us/group-programs/>

**Children who are not currently working with a therapist at Talking Matters** may need to attend a 30 minute session along with their parent/s so we can determine if the group would be suitable and meet their needs. The standard therapy fee will apply.

This program may be funded under NDIA plans where it aligns with the child's goals. You can talk to your child's therapist if you need help to decide if the group would be useful for your child.

While families are able to leave for the duration of the day, they need to be easily reached and able to return to the Talking Matters office within a 15 minute time frame to support their child if required.



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## Talking Matters

# Connecting Through my AAC



**A group program to provide and assist in using AAC devices with peers in fun and engaging activities.**

**A chance for children to learn and practice on their AAC in activities with peers**

## About the program

Does your child use an AAC device such as ProLo2Quo or PODD? Are you looking for opportunities for use with other children who also use an AAC?

Your child can now access a new program during the school holidays to develop their skills in using their AAC device with peers.

This unique package includes a focus on common activities that your child will experience in the school environment. Your child will have multiple opportunities to practice using, and seeing others use their AAC devices through lots of fun activities.

The program runs across 2 days from 9 am – 12 midday. Children work with a number of therapists and an assistant across the day and benefit from the variety of skills the different allied health therapists bring.

Families return for the last 15 minutes of the session to receive feedback, ask questions and prepare to follow up on skills at home.



## Aims of the program

Throughout the program, your child will enjoy a range of activities that allow for lots of opportunities to see others using and build on their skills in using their AAC device to

- Request for items
- Comment on likes or dislikes
- Describe items
- Ask for help
- Give instructions
- Directing games (my turn / your turn)
- Comment on feelings

Examples of activities include:

### Creative Play

During creative tasks, they have an opportunity to build on fine motor skills (cutting, gluing and handwriting).

### Obstacle Course and Big Movements

During obstacle courses and gross motor activities they have opportunities to build on skills in balance and sequencing movements.

### Game Play

A variety of board and card based turn taking games they have opportunities for sharing, turn taking, winning and losing.

## Who is this group for?

This group is ideal for primary school aged children who have been building their skills in using their AAC in 1:1 settings and want to have more opportunities to use their AAC with peers.

The program will support children who may be experiencing challenges in:

- Using their AAC in a variety of settings
- Using their AAC with peers
- Using their AAC in the classroom
- Confidence in using their AAC outside of the home or therapy room

Children also need to be able to:

- comfortably manage a 3 hour program
- manage their toileting
- follow instructions from an adult

**Check our website for pricing, dates and location of our next group**

