

## Introducing Intensive Interaction



**Intensive Interaction is an approach that supports interaction and learning in the early stages of communication development.**



### How do you start Intensive Interaction?

- Spend some one-to-one time with your child.
- Put yourself in a position where you are close to your child.
- Keep your face relaxed and interested.
- The important bit: tune-in to what your child is doing with their body and their sounds.
- Take time to watch.
- Slowly begin to copy and join in with what your child is doing.
- Go slowly and use lots of pauses. Your child may begin to notice you are doing the same thing.
- The main aim is that both you and your child enjoy your time together and have fun.

### How does Intensive Interaction help?

Intensive Interaction helps children to develop the fundamentals of communication. These are the communication abilities and experiences that come before speech development.

### What are the fundamentals of communication?

They include:

- Enjoying being with another person and sharing personal space.
- Developing the ability to show attention to that person.
- Learning to take turns in sequences of actions with another person.
- Using and understanding eye contacts, facial expressions and body language.
- Using vocalisations with meaning (for some, speech development).
- Learning to feel and be calm.

### Where can I learn more?

These videos show a range of children, young people and adults enjoying Intensive Interaction:

[Autism, Social Communication, Intensive Interaction - YouTube](#)

[Therapy strategies: Intensive Interaction - YouTube](#)

(you can find these videos by typing the title into YouTube)