

FINDING THE "RIGHT" COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

What to Use?

- Find a system with features that will suit an individual best
- Consider current and future needs
- Use multiple modalities (**Total Communication** approach)
- How can the individual be a part of the process?
- This process takes time!

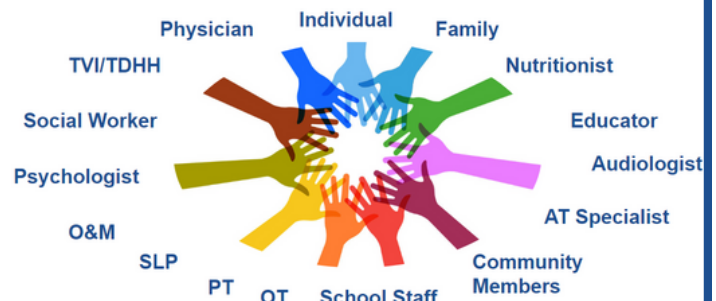
Where to Start?

- Build a trusting relationship and positive rapport
- Learn what the individual is motivated by
- Meet the individual where they are and follow their lead

What to Consider?

- Vision and Hearing status
- Tactile sense
- Other sensory needs
- Motor abilities - Gross motor, fine motor
- Motor planning and motor memory
- Positioning
- Structural, anatomical, and physiological characteristics
- Attention, fatigue, memory
- Behavior
- Language load/demands
- Other unique needs of the individual
- Individual motivations and preferences

Who is Involved?



What Else to Consider?

- Type of symbol
- Adaptability & Portability
- Size & Array of symbols
- Lighting, mounting needs, etc.
- Colors and textures
- Benefits and drawbacks of different systems