

## Rett UK: Teaching Communication for Complex Needs

Claire, Mum to Jessica, 19 years old told:

*"Jason and I attended the AAC training day back in November then returned for the second day with Jessica, we had previously attended the Rett UK Regional Day in July and had a session with Callie and Debbie from Dynavox, Jess immediately blew us away with how fast she picked up using the device to communicate, so we were very keen to attend the training sessions and get as much knowledge as possible, Jess has used an eye gaze at school for 4/5 years, but was still at the game stage which frustrated me immensely, I knew Jessica was capable and had so much to tell us, this again was shown when she attended with us on the 2nd day in November, for the first time ever she told us she needed the toilet, wanted a cup of tea amongst a whole load of other things. Thanks to Rett UK we were able to loan the device for 2 months, some days Jessica was full of herself and conversation, other days she didn't want to talk, we still have a long way to go but can't wait to have Jessica's own device to further her communication journey, I would definitely recommend these days to other families looking for a voice for their silent angels, thank you so much Rett UK and Tobii Dynavox"*



**Day 1 is a full training day for parents, professionals and carers. Day 2 is a one hour communication group to attend with the person with Complex Needs.**

**Book day 1 via [eventbrite](#)**

**Book day 2 by calling the Rett UK office on 01582 798910 or email [gillian.bartlett@rettuk.org](mailto:gillian.bartlett@rettuk.org)**

This is an event for those getting started on their learning journey using a robust communication system with children and adults with Rett Syndrome and other complex communication needs (CCN) e.g. Severe Cerebral Palsy, Angelman Syndrome, Fragile X, PURA Syndrome

Places are free to members for Rett UK as part of their Communication and Education Project – maximum of 2 places for parents and/or carers.

You can attend day 1 as a stand alone day. To attend day 2 you must attend day 1.

## **Day 1**

Thursday 4th October 2018

9.45.am-3.45pm

Arrival from 9.30am

The day will be a hands-on learning approach where we will learn a concept and then practise it. The focus will be on ways we can get started using low tech as well as high tech devices.

The underlying principle is that for those using Alternative & Augmentative Communication (AAC) to learn a symbol language we need to speak to them in that language.

We will cover:

Can people with Rett syndrome really communicate?

How much language should we make available?

What types of language should we make available?

How do we teach a symbol based language?

What devices are available?

How do we support those with Complex Needs to access a communication system?

Establishing a 'yes' and 'no'

Partner Assisted Scanning

Low tech book

Myths/FAQ's

For: Parents, Teachers, SLTs, Therapists and Carers

A cold buffet lunch will be provided.

## **Day 2**

Friday 5th October 2018

To attend day 2 with the person with complex communication needs, the parents/carers/professionals accompanying them must have attended day 1.

Groups will run throughout the day, after booking a ticket you will be contacted to find out the age of the person with CCN to work out which group is most appropriate for you.

The day will run in one hour communication group sessions. A person with CCN can come to one session with up to two carers.

We will implement the learning from day 1 in a practical and hands on session.

For: people with CCN, Parents, Teachers, SLTs, Therapists and Carers

Loan devices are subject to availability and further information regarding these will be sent out after booking.

Questions?? Contact Gill on [gillian.bartlett@rettuk.org](mailto:gillian.bartlett@rettuk.org)

\*Free Rett UK Members tickets may be cancelled up to 27th September 2018 but after that date, if you cancel or are a 'no show' on the day Rett UK reserves the right to make a £50 charge.

Cancellations for all other tickets must be made by 27th September 2018. No refunds will be given after this date.

**Location:** Cheshire County Sports Club, Plas Newton Lane, Chester, CH2 1PR