

Intensive Interaction is based on research on how all of us develop the early communication skills upon which all of our relationships, knowledge and expertise as human beings are founded...

...but most of all, it's enjoyable learning for both parties!!

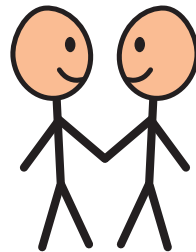
## Useful sources of further information

- Hewett, D., Barber, M., Firth, G. & Harrison, T. (2012) The Intensive Interaction Handbook. London: Sage Publications.
- "Valuing People Now" Government White Paper, January 2009
- [www.intensiveinteraction.org](http://www.intensiveinteraction.org)
- [www.leedsaft.nhs.uk](http://www.leedsaft.nhs.uk)

There is also an Intensive Interaction discussion forum on Facebook - [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

## Contact us

For further information about using Intensive Interaction and training opportunities please see website and/or speak to your Speech and Language Therapist:



Children's Speech and Language Therapy Service  
3rd Floor, Stockdale House, Victoria Road, LS6 1PF  
Tel: 0113 843 3650  
[www.leedscommunityhealthcare.nhs.uk/csft](http://www.leedscommunityhealthcare.nhs.uk/csft)

## Help us get it right

If you have a complaint, concern, comment or compliment please let us know by speaking to a member of our staff. We learn from your feedback and use the information to improve and develop our services.

If you would like to talk to someone outside the service contact the **Patient Experience Team** on **0113 220 8585**, Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4.30pm or email [lch.pet@nhs.net](mailto:lch.pet@nhs.net)

**We can make this information available in Braille, large print, audio or other languages on request.**

# Intensive Interaction



**A practical approach to interaction and learning  
for people who do not find it easy communicating  
or being social**

Produced by The Leeds Speech and Language Therapy Service  
Building communication skills for life

## What is Intensive Interaction?

Intensive Interaction is an approach to interacting with and teaching early communication and interaction skills to those who do not find it easy communicating or being social.

Developed by Dave Hewett PhD and Melanie Nind PhD in the 1980s, it aims to teach the basic **Fundamentals of Communication** as well as helping develop sociability, cognitive abilities and emotional well being.

Intensive Interaction supports the person to develop competence and confidence as a communicator.

We can use Intensive Interaction at any time and in any place, taking opportunities as they arise.

## Who is Intensive Interaction for?

Intensive Interaction was originally developed for those whose communication and learning disabilities are more severe or complex. It is particularly useful when communicating and relating is made more difficult by additional physical or sensory impairments and / or autism.

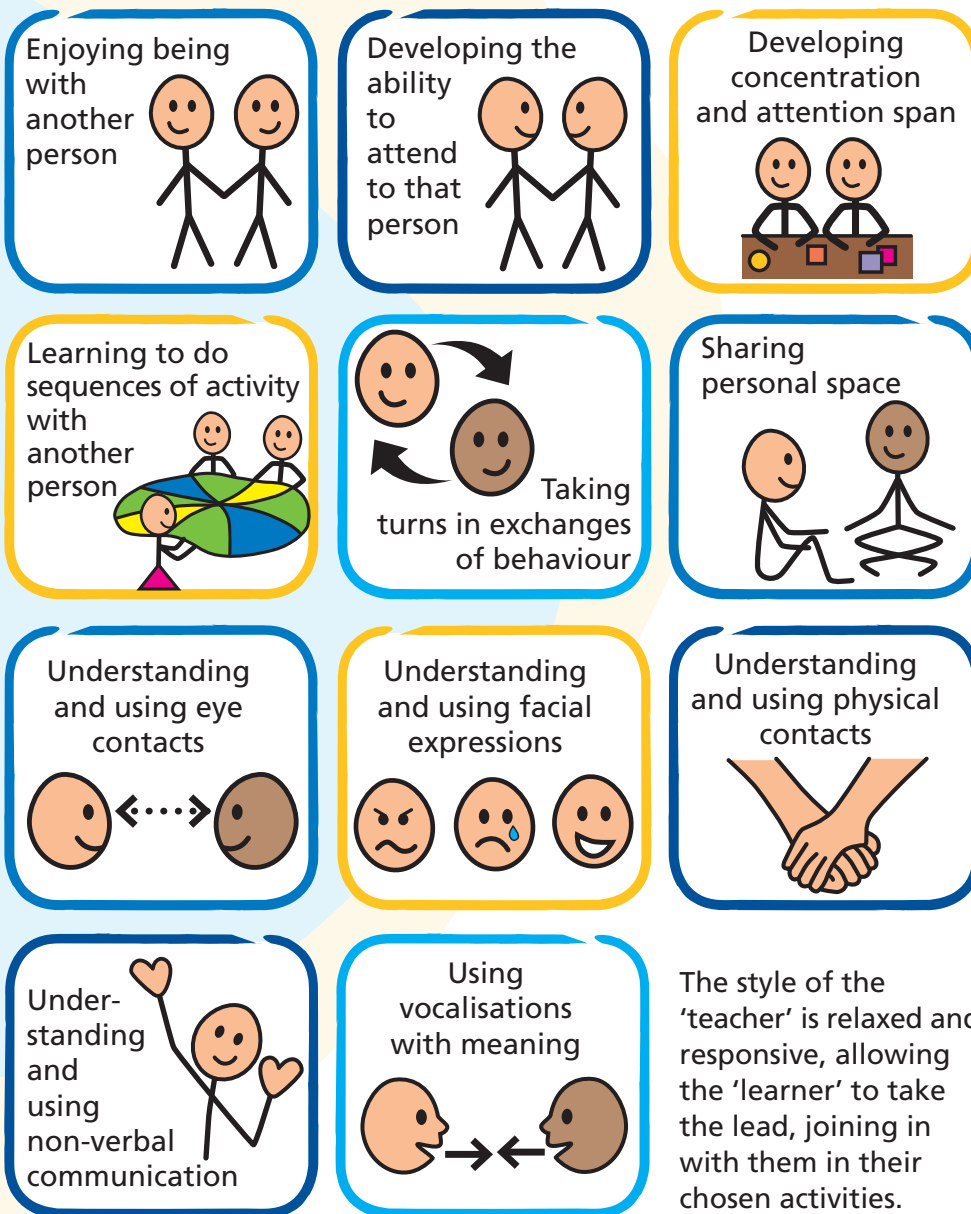
Intensive Interaction is also useful to those with some speech and language ability, who would still benefit from further learning and development in the area of the 'fundamentals of communication' – see over.

The approach is used by a wide range of professionals and support staff as well as families and friends.



## Fundamentals of Communication

Intensive Interaction works by gradually developing enjoyable and relaxed interactive sequences between the interaction partner and the individual doing the learning. During these sequences the Fundamentals of Communication are rehearsed and learned in a free-flowing manner.



The style of the 'teacher' is relaxed and responsive, allowing the 'learner' to take the lead, joining in with them in their chosen activities.