CONSIDERATIONS AND TIPS for GETTING STARTED WITH EYE GAZE

Abstract

In supporting people who are considering eye gaze technologies for someone with complex communication needs and/or need for computer access, we have encountered many requests for assistance in getting started during a trial and thereafter!

Well before the trial starts we will encourage families and carers, therapists and schools to access remote and e-learning tools to assist them in the process of learning about eye gaze.

We also engage in discussions to point out that there are several considerations to make the most of trialling an eye gaze system. Whether it’s face to face, on the phone or via online webinar sessions, pre-trial training is offered to individuals and families and those who are supporting them. The training covers positioning the equipment and the user, environmental factors, tracking, calibration and other important aspects of setup. These are also outlined on a guide sheet that is provided for reference during the trial.

The Tobii Dynavox eye gaze pathway (and other eye gaze learning curve tools) shows us the progression of eye gaze skills and provides suggestions of games and activities to develop those skills at each level. The Tobii Dynavox eye gaze games website is a great resource that points to a range of commercial software and online games to help develop eye gaze skills at different levels.

In this oral presentation we will highlight the important considerations and tips for getting started with any eye gaze system and discuss some online resources for the development of eye gaze skills.