COMMUNICATION APPS RUBRIC

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App Name: _____

Feature	Does App have this feature?	Does the learner or partner need this feature?	App matches need?
Are there pre-stored images? How many?			
Nature of graphics? Photo, drawing, PCS			
Automatic text label with graphics?			
Can you change text labels or enter your own labels?			
Do you need to enter all/most content (graphics, text, voice)? (If so, you can skip the next four boxes)			
Is required vocabulary included? Nouns (Names of people, places and things) Pronouns (e.g. I, he she, we, they, mine, hers etc) Verbs (Action words) Conjunctions (words for joining – e.g. or, and, but Modifiers (Adverbs and adjectives that add meaning to nouns and verbs – red, colours) OTHER			
Is variation in word forms included? Plurals (-s, ies) Verb tenses (-ing, -ed) Comparatives (-er, -est) OTHER			
Is vocabulary available for ALL communicative functions?			

Request/preference Ask questions Social/politeness Protest/reject Comment/provide information Repair communication breakdowns/misunderstandings Initiate/terminate Turn take Story telling OTHER			
Is vocabulary included for multiple contexts? Familiar routines and activities for home and school (e.g. Meals, morning circle, art/craft) Self care Community activities Activities specific to student OTHER			
Can you import own images? What kinds of images?			
Can you add your own text to imported images?			
Does the App provide voice output?			
Voice output choices? How many? Male/female Boy/Girl Australian accent Volume Speed			
Are the included voices easily understood by partners?			
Can you record own voice output?			
Does the App speak new text that you enter?			
Can you change the pronunciation of included text?			
Speaks one word or sentence per graphic?			
Static or dynamic display?			
Can the display be locked to one page?			
Does it allow multi-symbol combinations?			

Allows syntax?			
Is there a message window for multi-symbol messages?			
What are the access options? Touch screen only? Switch access? Scanner access?			
What scanning options are possible? Graphic by graphic Row and/or column Scans all buttons as well as symbol grid? Control speed of scanning?			
What is the maximum and minimum number of grids/pages?			
Is there a built-in organization system for pages?			
How are pages organized? Grammatical categories Activities Contexts Category groups (e.g. food)			
Can you create your own organization system?			
Are the displays in a grid or scene display?			
Range of sizes of graphics for grid display?			
What is the maximum and minimum numbers of graphics you can have on one grid?			
For larger grids, are all graphics visible on the screen at one time or is swiping needed?			
Is there any visual indication of which graphic has been touched? E.g. graphic gets bigger, moves to message window			
Can you have different size graphics in the one grid?			
Size of button area for various grids and scene displays?			
Can you change organisation within grids?			

How do you move between pages? Swipe Touch icon Go back to a menu/main page Slide show mode OTHER			
Is there an entry page(s) to assist in locating the relevant page?			
Are there sets of linked pages?			
Can you change background colour of graphics to assist organization?			
What motor skills are required Touch Swipe Pinch (enlarge/decrease) Double tap Drag and drop			
What other elements can you change? Font for text Colour Borders			
Can the app be set up for multiple users on the same device?			
How do you switch the App between users?			
Is it the same as/compatible with what the student is already using (home and school)?			
Can vocabulary be shared across devices at home and school?			
What supports are available for the App? Website Videos Tutorials OTHER			
What is the cost of the App?			

Could it be used to replace existing options for: Switch with a single message (BigMac) Switch with a set sequence of messages (Step-by-step communicator) Chat book Home/school diary			