### Communication Strategies Toolkit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategies</th>
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| **“We’re doing this together.”** Collaborative intent | • Shares information  
• Uses collaborative talk  
• Shows understanding of what was said  
• Invites partner to evaluate their contribution  
• Confirms partner’s contribution  
• Shows enthusiasm for contributions  
• Establishes equal leadership roles |
| **“What can help make this easier?”** Cognitive support | • Gives information when needed  
• Uses memory, organization supports  
• Gives cues in a conversational manner  
• Responds to errors by giving correct information in a non-punitive manner |
| **“I’m with you – it’s OK.”** Emotional support | • Communicates respect for other’s concerns, perspectives and abilities  
• Acknowledges difficulties |
| **“What can I ask to help you contribute?”** Questions | • Questions in a non-demanding manner  
• Questions in a supportive manner |
| **“I’m interested in sharing conversation.”** Turn taking | • Takes appropriate conversational turns  
• Helps partner express thoughts when struggle occurs |
| **“We’ll choose topics which keep things going – in this conversation and into the future.”** Elaboration of topics | • Introduce and initiate topics of interest that can go further  
• Maintain the topic for many turns  
  ○ Contributes many pieces of information to the topic  
  ○ Partner invites elaboration |
| **“I’ll help organise the conversation so we can talk in more detail.”** Elaborative organisation | • Organizes information in conversation clearly  
  ○ Sequential order  
  ○ Physical causality  
  ○ Psychological cause  
  ○ Similarity and difference  
  ○ Association  
• Makes connections when topics change  
• Makes connections among day to day conversational themes  
• Reviews organisation of information |
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