



# INCREASING FUNCTIONAL COMMUNICATION AND LEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM

## 1 WHAT IS ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT?

Describes how children respond to and interact with the demands of the classroom and the people around them.

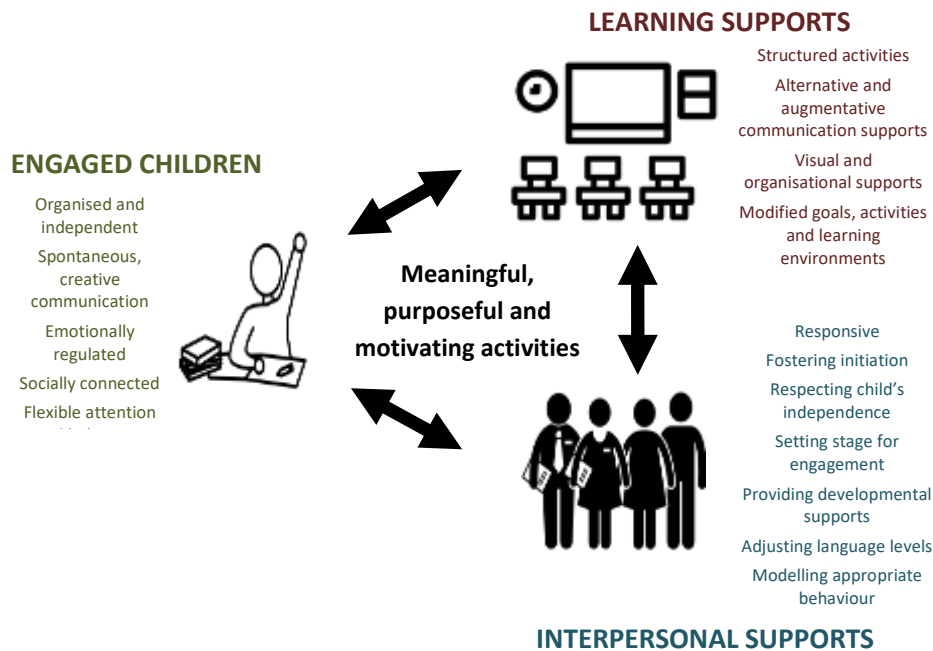
A dynamic construct which is important for learning.

A key component in effective teaching and learning for all children.

## 2 HOW CAN ADULTS SUPPORT CHILDREN?

Adults play a crucial role in supporting children's active engagement by:











1. Designing **meaningful, purposeful** and **motivating** activities
2. Modifying the environment through the provision of **learning supports**
3. Providing **interpersonal supports** by changing the way they interact with learners



### REFERENCES:

- The SCERTS Framework: Prizant, Wetheby, Rubin, Laurent, Ridell (2007)  
 Maximising the impact of teaching Assistants 2<sup>nd</sup> edition: Webster, Russell, Blatchford (2016)  
 Evaluation of Classroom Active Engagement in Elementary Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders Sparapan, et al 2016

## 3 WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE WHEN CHILDREN ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED?

 <p><b>A. Using task materials productively in activities</b></p>	 <p><b>B. Independently collecting materials to use in a task or activity</b></p>	<p>Organisation</p>
 <p><b>C. Spontaneous and creative expressive communication</b></p>	 <p><b>D. Directing communication towards children and adults</b></p>	
 <p><b>E. Seeking assistance when feelings are difficult to manage</b></p>	 <p><b>F. Using coping strategies when activities become challenging</b></p>	<p>Emotional Regulation</p>
 <p><b>G. Collaborating effectively through reciprocity and taking turns</b></p>	 <p><b>H. Responding to a communication partner when they make a bid for attention</b></p>	
 <p><b>I. Being flexible when asked to change location</b></p>	 <p><b>J. Being flexible when asked to change activity or task materials</b></p>	<p>Flexibility</p>