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## Are you working or training to work with people who have complex intellectual disabilities?

## *UK Government Department for Education describes Intensive Interaction as ‘one of the most important advances of the past 20 years’ in Special Education, making a ‘significant contribution to the development of effective communication curricula for those with complex learning and communication difficulties’*

## <http://www.education.gov.uk/complexneeds/modules/Module-2.3-The-curriculum-challenge/All/m07p040b.html>

## Deakin University offers the only accredited training in Intensive Interaction outside of UK.

## This 3 phase, 8 day Unit of Study in the approach at Burwood Campus and can be completed by attendance, or by attendance plus two 3000word assignments to gain one Masters level credit.

## *Intensive Interaction*

## *fosters meaningful communicative opportunities with those who might*

## *otherwise be considered impossible to reach*

## http://www.education.gov.uk/complexneeds/modules/Module-2.3-The-curriculum-challenge/All/m07p040b.html

## What is Intensive Interaction?

## The British Institute for Learning Disabilities describes Intensive Interaction as “a practical approach to interacting with people who have learning disabilities and who do not find it easy communicating or being social” <http://www.bild.org.uk> [ factsheet 009]

## Intensive Interaction is

## an approach to teaching the pre-speech fundamentals of communication to children and adults who have complex intellectual difficulties and/or autism and who are still at an early stage of communication development (Hewett,2006 )

## a practical approach to interacting with people with learning disabilities who do not find it easy communicating or being social

## an approach to developing the ability and desire to communicate and participate in social interactions

## Since 2003 in Australia, Intensive Interaction has been introduced into over 90 educational settings and day services for people with severe intellectual disabilities across all states of the country.

## The APS (the largest professional body for psychologists in Australia) recognises Intensive Interaction as an evidence based practice in their document ‘*Evidence-based guidelines to reduce the need for restrictive practices in the disability sector’ [p.35].*

## Goldbart, J & Caton, S [2010], ‘Communication and people with the most complex needs: What works and why this is essential?’, published by Research Institute for Health and Social Change [UK] in association with MENCAP, identifies Intensive Interaction as the most widely reported approach by practitioners, with over 85% of speech and language therapists in the survey using it

## For more details go to [*http://www.deakin.edu.au/arts-ed/cppe/courses/intensive.php*](http://www.deakin.edu.au/arts-ed/cppe/courses/intensive.php)]

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