

EChoeS: some thoughts on methodology

Kaśka Porayska-Pomsta, Helen Pain

Investigate appropriate evaluation methodologies

How can future tools be evaluated re research and educational value?

What measures of effectiveness can be used reliably?

Develop metrics to determine learning gains in terms of the cognitive, social, and linguistic skills

Potential users and participants

- Young school children 4-10 years old
- Children with Asperger syndrome
- Input from researchers, practitioners, carers, SLT's, teachers and parents, expert end-users (i.e. adults with AS)

General methodology

User centred design/PCM

Empirical methodology used will consist of

- focus groups,
- observation,
- video capture of users and screen,
- tasks checklists,
- talking mats and
- semi-structured interviews with users (where possible)

Adapt data collection methods to users

**e.g.
Talking
mats
(Standup)**

Bad – OK - Good



Exploratory Studies

- 3/4 ND children (5-10) engaging in communication tasks conducted through 2/3 example tools
- 2 children with AS, one example tool
- Pre-specified tasks

Research Questions

Need to determine:

- What questions are we asking in these studies?
- What questions will be addressed in larger project?
- What existing measurement tools are available?
- What further tools are needed?