**Prompting Hierarchy**

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| **Independent (I)-**Student followed instruction or request on their own. |
| **Visual (VS)**-Adult gave student a picture or a positional hint. |
| **Gestural (G)**-Adult pointed, tapped, or nodded to help student. |
| **Verbal (V)**-Adult gave student a verbal hint by telling them something/asking a question. |
| **Model (M)**-Adult showed student how to complete the instruction/request. |
| **Physical (P)**-Adult provided hand-over-hand or physical assistance. |

When giving an individual instruction or making a request, **always assume competence**, which means to assume that the individual can do the skill on their own without your help. **AFTER** giving the individual time to process your instruction/request, provide the next prompt down on the prompting hierarchy chart to help the individual. If the individual still does not complete the instruction/request after your prompt, continue to move down the chart until the individual completes the instruction/request. **Remember,** all prompts are given **AFTER** the instruction/request has been given or the question has been asked.