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Assistive technology to support students

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Literacy Toolbox approach

The Literacy Toolbox approach introduces a range of support for reading and learning to your classroom. These recognisable resources normalise making use of tools to help learners be successful. This simple strategy provides a pathway to independence for learners with literacy difficulties and neurodiverse needs.

Literacy Toolbox

Scanning Pens

Scanning Pens Training Hub including SEND guides and Helping Hands Detective Agency.

Using assistive technology to support specific needs

These videos highlight the assistive technology available to support children and young people with the following needs:

Fine motor skills	Speech, language and communication needs	Concentration	Low vision
Comprehension	Using Clicker to Support Literacy	Using DocsPlus to support reading and writing in Secondary schools	Google Read and Write

Assistive technology features in Microsoft 365

Customise Windows with accessibility features	Office Lens	Maths Progress in Teams for Education	Microsoft Reading Coach
Reflect in Microsoft Teams	Immersive Reader		

Ace Centre

Ace Centre is a registered charity providing assistive technology and augmentative and alternative communcation services for people with complex needs. We offer assessment, training and information services across England, with a focus on augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) and assistive technology (AT), delivered by our multi-disciplinary team of specialist teachers, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists.

Ace Centre website

Training and support

Blackpool had the only special school in the UK with EdTech Demonstrator status between 2020 to 2022. There is a YouTube channel of training videos to support learners with SEND using technology. EdTech SEND Guides

Accessible Tech Thursdays training guides.

British Assistive Technology Association

BATA has an internal network of over 90 members from various sectors, with different interests and passions. We want our community to be a place where vibrant discussion can take place, where knowledge can be shared and alternate perspectives valued. We care about doing what's necessary to break silos and create space for collaboration, expanding our community and growing our influence. Membership for schools is £100 per year.

British Assistive Technology Association

MicroLink assistive technology in schools

Developing the use of Assistive Technologies in mainstream classrooms is becoming government policy, with all new recruits into the profession receiving mandatory training from September 2025.

MicroLink are offering all education settings (5 to 19) more opportunities to join the highly successful "Be ThAT Teacher" professional development programme, with new cohorts able to join in March and May 2025.

MicroLink professional development programme 2025.

CALL Scotland

Download the apps wheel for AAC

iPad apps for Dyslexia

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