

Assistive Technology software: something for everyone



Home Access packages are designed to make it easier for everyone to make the most of using computers and getting online. All Home Access packages come pre-loaded with Assistive Technology software described below. Although particularly useful for those with difficulties using a computer or accessing the internet, it can help to improve the whole family's learning experience.

Read & Write Home Access Edition

This software provides text applications that can help everyone to develop their literacy skills. Research indicates that this type of software can significantly improve writing by helping users to write faster and more accurately. It helps with effective sentence construction by providing a list of suggested words in a prediction panel. It automatically learns the user's particular writing style and predicts the word they will want to use next.

Text-to-Speech software is also included. It will read aloud text by word, sentence or paragraph as they write or on request. It can convert text that's typed in or taken from a web page into audio files to save on any media player. This is a great tool for all the family, allowing learning on the move and providing easier access for visually impaired or dyslexic users.

The speaking phonetic spellchecker feature is particularly useful for users with a limited vocabulary or who speak English as a second language. The embedded dictionary will actually speak any selected word, boosting

user confidence that it's the correct word and help improve language skills.

It also provides audible homophone support and a dictionary with sample sentences. This enables users to access a 'sounds like' feature that identifies words that may be out of context. Whilst text is written words that can be confused are colour-coded to highlight potential errors and offer a list of possible alternatives and sample sentences.

MindView 3 Home Access

MindView3 helps everyone more easily visualise ideas by creating highly-effective Mind Maps. Ideas can be recorded using pictures, sounds and video as an aid to studying, problem solving, decision-making and writing. It includes over 100 curriculum-based templates and educational images with user options represented with large, easy to understand icons.

iZoom

iZoom magnifies any section of the screen to aid viewing. Great for the visually impaired but also for other users who are sharing a screen while working collaboratively or just need to magnify a specific element of the page they're viewing. It also includes speech support to help reduce eye strain through audible feedback relating to on-screen events.

Benefits for all

The approach taken by the Home Access programme in procuring this software has leveraged huge financial savings and demonstrated outstanding value for money. The software is included at no additional cost to grant recipients and to other customers for a small additional fee.

The Assistive Technology software is a unique feature to the Home Access package and will provide a real benefit to the education of the child and their family.



-  Home Access Grant helpline
Call: 0333 200 1004*
-  Minicom: 0121 748 1471
-  Support the programme
www.homeaccess.org.uk
-  Realise the benefits
www.becta.org.uk/homeaccess

*Calls may be monitored or recorded to maintain high levels of security and quality of service. Calls to this number cost no more than a call to a 01 or 02 number and count towards inclusive minutes in the same way as 01 and 02 calls. These rules apply to calls from any type of line including mobile, BT, other fixed line or payphone.