Using Assistive Technology That Makes A Difference

Instead of printing out handouts that would need to be accessed electronically anyway I decided the best way to share was to provide a linked PDF to this information which is relevant at the time of writing (25.03.22)

Text to Speech

Spoken Content – can be found on iOS in Settings>Accessibility>Vision>Spoken Content and provides an access tool to give any text a voice on an iPad. Better than holding down and highlighting text which can then be accidentally erased.

Read Aloud – can found on any web page, pdf, epub document by pressing CTRL+SHIFT+U . There are many accessibility features in Edge to explore but Read Aloud is the most useful for dyslexics.

Immersive Reader in Word – Go to View Menu > Immersive Reader

Productivity Toolbar in Android 10 & 11 – Settings>Display>System Navigation> Productivity Mode. When enabled makes any Android 10 /11 device have a speaking button that reads back the screen

Natural Reader – is a Google extension and website at https://www.naturalreaders.com/ provides a good English voice to any text and copied into the app/website.

Lightkey https://www.lightkey.io/ - artificial intelligence app that predicts your writing similar to Google's smart writing.

Speech to Text

Voice Access Control – give voice commands in Windows 11 to enable simple operations to be made to access apps and settings on the device.

Dicate - give speech input to any word document. Simple edit such as Delete. On the Home Tab . Depends on Wifi for use,cannot be used offline.

Microphone - on the onscreen keyboard of an iPad 2 and upwards. Can now be used offline with no wifi switched on.

Claro Scan Pen - in Android or iOS scans and reads back any printed text (not anything handwritten)

 Voice Typing – built into Google Docs under the Tools menu , keyboard shortcut CTRL+SHIFT+ S

Dictation for Gmail https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/dictation-for-gmail/eggdmhdpffgikgakkfojgiledkekfdce – Google Chrome extension that allows dictation into Google Mail

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Memory Aides

Smart Speakers - alexa, google mini nest can set dates,appointments and remidners as well as timers using voice commands. Need to link to a calendar though such as Google Calendar

Tiimo – subscription based app from Scandinavia that is your virtual assistant. Provides reminders and nags to enable you to do a task or know of events in its calendar. Can give step by step instructions by careful note under the event.

Brain -in – Hand - https://braininhand.co.uk/ user-led self managent via assistive technology means. Subsciption based.

Overcoming Barriers

Glean - https://glean.co/ online note-taking that helps with remembering and organising such things as homework, assignments and important concepts. Always ask permission of the speaker before recording

Claro Writing Helper - Writing Helper - Organise Your Essays - Claro Software organises and structures essay writing providing a system structure to your writing

Notetaker – notetaking express - https://uk.notetakingexpress.com/ artificial intelligence note taking where it can record and transcribe and generates notes automatically.

*Microsoft Team*s – generates captions, files and onenote notes in a meeting to be recalled back later. Creates groups to organise your lessons into it.

Microsoft OneNote – part of Office 365 incorporates sections and pages that can organise into one workbook a students work or allow a class to be manage via ClassNotebook.

Sticky Notes - built into Windows 10 /11 and is great for capturing notes on a Zoom Call. Provides a limitless supply of coloured notes to go back to and remember actions and points you have listened to. I use it all the time to keep a track of my projects and workload

Post-IT – Post-it® on the App Store (apple.com) we all use a note sticker system well it's even better elexctronically where notes can be organised and put into groups and then exported in various ways into PowerPoints or PDF's

Google Keep – the Google version of post it notes – allows colour coding of information such as Map Directions from Google Maps. Available as part of your Google Account for free.

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Organisation

***Trello* – free** – project management and organisation which keeps a track of your work electronically.

Insightly – free – also another project management tool which tracks the progress of your workload.

Claro Writing Helper - [Writing Helper - Organise Your Essays - Claro Software](#) organises and structures essay writing providing a system structure to your writing

ReadWrite for Google – a free google chrome extension to collect and collate information and colour code ideas into a collected work.

Class Timetable iOS free [Class Timetable on the App Store (apple.com)](#)– visual timetable that colour codes lessons and tasks such as assignments and homework linked to your calendar and sends reminders to your devices.

WidgitOnline – https://widgitonline.com/ symbolised visual timetables. Subscription based tool for learners who need picture symbols to help their organisation

Inspiration 10 [Inspiration 10 | Mind Mapping and Concept Mapping (inspiration-at.com)](#)– mindmapping software to help and plan your detail. To see the bigger picture.

Integrated Toolbars

ReadWrite Texthelp – [Read&Write For Education - Reading, Literacy & Assistive Software | Texthelp](#) provides a range of AT tools that help with spelling, word prediction, audio conversion, scanning and so much more.

ClaroRead Plus [ClaroRead Windows - Text to Speech Software - Claro Software](#) – a similar toolbar of dyslexia tools that can help reading and decoding text

Appwriter Cloud [AppWriter Cloud - Chrome Web Store (google.com)](#)– Google Chrome extension but also available for use on PC's with a paid account. A suite of tools including a PDF editing tool to help with online form filling in.

Hyperbird – https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/helperbird-for-chrome/ahmapmilbkfamljbpgphfndeemhnajme suite of dyslexia friendly tools on Google Chrome as an extension.

Grammarly – https://app.grammarly.com/ works on the web but also has a plug in for Word https://www.grammarly.com/office-addin?utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=search-ad-ext&utm_content=&utm_term=grammarly%20for%20word&matchtype=e&placement=&network=o

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Ginger Software – https://www.gingersoftware.com/ - sister product to Grammarly and is a free extension of Google Chrome.

My Study Bar – MyStudyBar - Suite of Portable Applications to Support Learners with Literacy Difficulties. (callscotland.org.uk) free from Call Scotland – useful aide to helping you find your assistive technology tools quickly.

Online Learning Tools

Padlet **– free** https://padlet.com/ - interactive screen sharing tool that can make enable a whole class to share ideas

Nearpod Nearpod: You'll wonder how you taught without it– provides interactive quizzes and multiple choice answers to pre-set content.

Lino – lino - Sticky and Photo Sharing for you (linoit.com) similar to all above but like Post its and Sticky Notes

Slido – Slido - Audience Interaction Made Easy live poll and interactive tool for events- also for classrooms and lecture theatres as well.

Vevox - https://www.vevox.com/ another polling and Q&A tool

Survey Monkey – send out questionnaires to find out information.

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