Assistive Technology: Removing Barriers to Learning.

At least 17.9% of students across the FE Sector, have self-declared having at least one permanent disability. Many more have a temporary or situational disability and around one in six 17- to 22-year-olds has an identifiable mental health condition, colleges have reported a significant increase in students with both diagnosed and undiagnosed conditions.

Reading and Writing

- ➢ [Immersive Reader](#) (MS 365 and MS Edge)
- ➢ [Office Lens](#) (iOS and Android app)
- ➢ [ColorVeil](#) (downloadable program)
- ➢ [WhiteBuster](#) (Edge and Chrome Extension)
- ➢ [Screen Mask](#) (Edge and Chrome Extension)
- ➢ [ALLY File Transformer](#) (website)
- ➢ [Dictate in Word](#) (MS 365 and app)
- ➢ [Google – Type with your voice](#) (Google Docs)

Spelling and grammar

- ➢ [MS Editor](#) (MS 365 and Edge/Chrome Extension)
- ➢ [Grammarly](#) (downloadable program, Edge/Chrome Extension, MS Office plug-in)

Planning and organisation

- ➢ [MindMup](#) (website)
- ➢ [MS To Do](#) (M365 and app)
- ➢ [Collections](#) (MS Edge)
- ➢ [MyStudyLife](#) (website)

Concentration and focus

- ➢ [Immersive Reader](#) (MS 365 and MS Edge)
- ➢ [Pomofocus](#) (website and app)
- ➢ [Cold Turkey](#) (downloadable program and Edge/Chrome Extension)
- ➢ [PDF Inking](#) (MS Edge)
- ➢ [WebNote](#) (Edge and Chrome Extension)

Presenting and note-taking

- ➢ [Speaker coach](#) (MS PowerPoint)
- ➢ [OneNote](#) (MS 365)
- ➢ [Otter.ai](#) (website and app)

Captions and transcripts

➢ PowerPoint Subtitles (MS PowerPoint)
➢ Live Caption (Google Chrome)
➢ Otter.ai (website and app)

Resources and training

➢ My Computer My Way AbilityNet
➢ Jisc: Assistive technology network
➢ Wigan & Leigh College Distance Learning courses
  o Understanding Children and Young People's Mental Health
  o Understanding Specific Learning Difficulties
  o Awareness of Mental Health Problems

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"For most people technology makes things easier. For people with disabilities, however, technology makes things possible. In some cases, technology becomes the great equalizer and provides the person with a disability a level playing field"

Mary Pat Radbaugh,

Director of IBM National Support Center for Persons with Disabilities, 1988