

Date: February 2022

## EPISODE 2 – WEBINAR: 25 NOVEMBER 2021

### HOW ARE STUDENTS WITH VISION IMPAIRMENT USING IPADS?

#### SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION - WEBSITES AND APPS MENTIONED DURING THE PODCAST

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Gateshead iPad Scheme of Work was referred to throughout the discussion:  
<https://educationgateshead.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/iPad-Accessibility-Scheme-of-Work-for-VI-Version-1.pdf>
- 1.2 A general guide to apps (not VI specific) which may be of use can be found here:  
[https://educationgateshead.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Apps\\_to\\_Support\\_Children\\_with\\_SEND\\_September\\_Update.pdf](https://educationgateshead.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Apps_to_Support_Children_with_SEND_September_Update.pdf)

#### 2. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 2.1 Could the panel recommend a calculator app which can be used in external examinations?
- <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/talking-scientific-calculator/id411433609>
  - Desmos | Scientific Calculator  
See: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/desmos-scientific-calculator/id1235292051>
  - Panecal Plus Scientific Calculator  
See: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/panecal-scientific-calculator/id668500803>
- 2.2 Are there any 'must have' apps to load onto the iPad for primary and secondary pupils?
- Seeing AI: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/ai/seeing-ai>
  - Prizmo: <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/prizmo-go-grab-text-share/id1183367390>
  - Ebenezer: <https://apps.apple.com/gb/developer/ebenezer-school/id512093968>
  - VoiceDream: <https://www.voicedream.com>
  - Apps from MyFirstApp: <https://apps.apple.com/us/developer/myfirstapp-ltd/id421655195>
  - Idiskkk – Flash drive for iPad: [https://www.idiskkk.com/idiskkk\\_new/list/?48\\_1.html](https://www.idiskkk.com/idiskkk_new/list/?48_1.html)
  - Easyreader: <https://yourdolphin.com/en-gb/products/individuals/easyreader-app>  
(also for Android – see <https://yourdolphin.com/en-gb/products/individuals/easyreader-app>)
  - MathPad: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/mathpad/id435087400>
  - Our Story: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/our-story-2/id1474216884>
  - Microsoft Word (and other parts of the MS Office Suite)  
<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/microsoft-word/id586447913>
  - Inclusive Technology: <http://www.inclusive.co.uk/> make Touchtronic apps:
    - Touchtronic Letters: <http://www.inclusive.co.uk/touchtronic-letters>
    - Touchtronic Placeholder: <http://www.inclusive.co.uk/touchtronic-placeholder>
    - Touchtronic Numbers: <http://www.inclusive.co.uk/touchtronic-numbers>
  - Splashtop - Classroom Screen Sharing: [www.splashtop.com](http://www.splashtop.com)
  - Skitch: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/skitch-snap-mark-up-share/id425955336?mt=12>
  - Apple Notes App: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/notes/id1110145109>
  - Our Story 2: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/our-story-2/id1474216884>

- Play Button: <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/playbutton/id472870128>
- Egg Head Lite: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/egg-head-lite-peekaboo-baby/id608096357>
- Fluidity HD: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/fluidity-hd/id399403909>
- Toca Band: <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/toca-band/id521640648>
- Moldiv - Photo Editor, Collage: <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/moldiv-photo-editor-collage/id608188610>
- Ilovefireworks: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/ilovefireworks-lite/id305321745>

### 2.3 How can the iPad be set up to use in exams?

See Gateshead Scheme of Work, Access - p.60 (link in 1.1 above)

### 2.4 My student writes on green paper. Is there some way they can type on an iPad with a green background?

- Settings > Display and Text Size > Colour Filter Option  
<https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/ipad/ipada16d1374/ipados>  
<https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/ipad/ipad9a246749/ipados>
- VoiceDream Writer (both background and text colours can be personalised)  
<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/voice-dream-writer/id920583100>

### 2.5 Is screen size a consideration for a pupil using voiceover?

This depends on the needs of student and the combination of access methods – iPad Pro works well for those using some vision and voiceover; a smaller screen (iPad mini or iPhone) can be helpful for those using voiceover gestures.

### 2.6 How do you set an iPad up to access eBooks with a braille display?

This is very individual. See Appendix H p.357 of the Scheme of Work for braille display info (link in 1.1 above)

### 2.7 Can you recommend a stand for the iPad?

- Work with an occupational therapist (OT)
- See the Gooseneck and Flexzi stands from Inclusive Technology:  
<http://www.inclusive.co.uk/hardware/mounting-options/ipad-mounting-solutions>
- See also mounts from Ram Mount:  
[https://www.ram-mount.co.uk/index.php?route=product/category&path=203\\_205](https://www.ram-mount.co.uk/index.php?route=product/category&path=203_205)
- Consider also voice control or use the Siri shortcut 'Say Cheese' (search Shortcuts Gallery to find).
- Apple voice control: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/ipad/ipad4b6c9ee4/ipados>

### 2.8 My pupil has difficulty taking a good photo when using the magnifier app, so her TA has to do it. I'd like her to be more independent, so does the panel have any tips?

See: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/ipad/ipade03a49ef/ipados>

### 2.9 Does it have to be an iPad? Are there other good alternatives? I'm thinking of the cost savings and for younger pupils where they perhaps will be using the iPad with less regularity.

See: <https://www.applevis.com/forum/ios-ipados/ios-versus-android-why-ios-better>

- 2.10 I tend to go by gut feel whether an iPad Pro or normal size iPad would be best. Do others follow a more prescriptive formula to help dictate whether to go for the larger iPad Pro, for example when pupils access a certain font size?
- One service uses iPad Pros if font size is N24 or above, but other factors are also taken into account.
- 2.11 Does the panel have any tips for accessing maps in Geography lessons using iPads?
- Invert Google maps – using zoom controller
  - Save outlines of images into camera roll and adapt in Skitch
- 2.12 Does the panel have any tips for using iPads (or other tech) to ensure that pupils can watch science demonstrations when they have to be at a distance for safety?
- It is possible to use TEAMS or other screen sharing software.
  - Smart Lens and iPad for Distance Video Magnifier:  
See YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WinpMGKqDa0>
  - Use a visualiser connected to a Teams stream – Student views Teams stream in lesson on ipad with mic and speakers off.
- 2.13 Can an iPad be set up for a pupil with physical difficulties who gets frustrated when they don't hit the tap targets?
- Accessibility – Touch and Switch control See: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT202658>
  - Set up voice control
- 2.14 A young learner of mine is a bit clumsy. I'm wary of recommending an iPad as I can imagine it getting damaged before long. Any suggestions for tough cases?
- Otter Box: <https://www.otterbox.co.uk>
  - Big Grips: <https://www.bigrips.com/>
  - Griffin Survivor Case (available via Amazon).
- 2.15 What are the panel's thoughts on using dictation on the iPad for classwork/homework/exams?
- This depends on speech clarity, and skills to read screen etc.  
See: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT208343>