

Assistive Technology

Training courses and resources

Notes

This list of assistive technology related training courses and other resources has been put together by Jisc subject specialists **Rohan Slaughter** and **Kellie Mote** in December 2019. The document will be periodically reviewed as we are made aware of additional training opportunities and other useful resources.

The training courses and resources available have been split out into four main categories:

- » **Academic study**, inclusive of courses led by HE organisations that lead to a degree or other higher-level qualification.
- » **Third-sector training and support**, note that some of this offer is paid for, and may also be delivered in partnership with an academic partner.
- » **Vendor training**, this includes training that is offered by the product developer or reseller, and whilst the material is useful in most cases it should be treated as being potentially biased towards the vendor offering the training, notably competitor products are unlikely to be covered.
- » **Online resources**, inclusive of freely available material that is useful when training users of staff how to utilise assistive technology.

This document is not exhaustive, and we would encourage the reader to contact us with details of additional academic courses, third-sector training, vendor training or other online resources that have not been included.

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Academic study

Shorter courses

- » **Inclusive digital technology course** - offered in partnership between the university of Edinburgh and Call Centre.
- » **AAC modules**, delivered in partnership between AAC Scotland and Call Centre.
- » **Evidence-Based Assessment in Complex Communication Needs** – MMU, Manchester Metropolitan University.

MSc courses

Note that there are no longer any dedicated assistive technology MSc courses. This list includes courses that have a link to AT, rather than being centred on AT.

- » **Disability, Design and Innovation MSc** - University College London Department of Computer Science
- » **MSc Augmentative & Alternative Communication** - University of Dundee Science & Engineering
- » **MSc by Research (Ambient Assisted Living)** - Middlesex University School of Science and Technology
- » **MSc Design for Healthcare & Assistive Technologies** - University of Dundee Science & Engineering
- » **MSc Digital Health** - Bournemouth University Faculty of Science & Technology
- » **MSc Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence** - Bournemouth University Faculty of Science & Technology
- » **Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technologies MSc**- University College London Division of Surgery and Interventional Science
- » **Special Needs and Inclusion** – MA Canterbury Christ Church University, Faculty of Education

Third-sector training and support

Links to charities and not-for-profit membership organisations.

AbilityNet

AbilityNet offer a range of training, primarily on **digital accessibility in higher and further education**

Ace Centre

Ace Centre provide **entry level training** and **academic qualifications** that related to AAC (alternative augmentative communication) that a delivered in partnership with MMU (Manchester Metropolitan University).

Call Centre

The Call Centre at the University of Edinburgh provides a range of training courses that are delivered both online and in person.

- » **Training courses**
- » **On-site training**
- » **Webinars**
- » **Inclusive digital technology**
- » **Seminars and events**
- » **Online workshops**

Natspec TechAbility

- » **Direct support from TechAbility**
- » Local support from **TechAbility centres of excellence**

Vendor training

All links are to commercial vendors / providers.

Baked in accessibility

Links for information on operating system accessibility options.

- » [Windows 10](#)
- » [Mac OS X](#)
- » [iOS \(iPhone\), iOS \(iPad\)](#)
- » [Android](#) (link to [Google Accessibility](#) home)

General AT training from commercial vendors

- » [Barry Bennett](#)
- » [Cricksoft](#), makers of Clicker and DocsPlus
- » [Diversity and Ability](#)
- » [Dolphin Computer Access](#) (webinar series link)
- » [Iansyst](#)
- » [Learning Support Centre](#)
- » [Microlink](#)
- » [Sight and sound technology](#)
- » [Sonocent](#)
- » [TextHelp](#)

AAC and high-tech AT

- » [Abilia / Gewa / Toby Churchill](#)
- » [AssistiveWare](#)
- » [Inclusive Technology](#)
- » [Liberator](#)
- » [SmartBoxAT](#)
- » [Techcess](#)
- » [TherapyBox](#)
- » [Tobii-Dynavox](#)

Environmental control systems

- » **Abilia / Gewa**
- » **DH2 solutions**
- » **Possum**
- » **Steeper**

Online resources

List of open access materials hosted by not-for profits / Charities.

Open University

- » **Assistive technologies and online learning** – a very basic introduction to assistive technology, whilst quite dated note that the **references section** may be useful.

AbilityNet

Free to access resources inclusive of

- » **Factsheets**
- » **Webinars**
- » **My computer my way** (help with making a device easier to use, describing the baked in accessibility options that may be found in a range of equipment).
- » **Digital accessibility resources**
- » **Workplace adjustments**
- » **Other useful links** – mainly to other third sector organisations.

Call Scotland

- » Call Scotland **information pages**
- » Call Scotland **downloadable resources**

Natspec TechAbility

"TechAbility has been working with Natspec Colleges and Karten Centres to improve the standards of Technology. This has been achieved through delivery of webinars, consultation visits, seminars and events.

One of the key findings during this time is the lack of guidance around what colleges/centres should be striving towards. There is an understanding that technology should be used, but without a clear view of how it should be used and to what ends.

*For this reason we created the **TechAbility Standards**."*

TechAbility has put together a set of **useful AT resources**.

Jisc

- » [Accessibility landing page](#)
- » [Accessibility regulations - what you need to know](#)
- » List of [accessibility and assistive technology](#) related guides

Others

- » **EduApps** – the collective name for the AccessApps, LearnApps, TeachApps and MuStudyBar, as curated by Craig Mill of call Scotland.
- » **Communication Matters resources**, AAC related resources that include:
 - › Online resources, inclusive of [eResources](#), a [Glossary](#) and the [Communication Matters journal](#)
 - › **Publications**
 - › Evidence, Communication Matters commissioned research to establish the [evidence of need for AAC in the UK](#). We host the archive [AACKnowledge website](#), designed to help researchers and others access robust evidence about AAC.
 - › Policy and standards, [Policy documents](#) on the use of communication aids, including National Standards for AAC services for children and adults.
 - › [AAC e-learning resources](#)
 - › [Information on AAC projects throughout the world](#)