iPad Apps for Learners with Complex Additional Support Needs

More Information

If you are using the electronic version, click on the individual app icon to get details from the iTunes site.

Using iPads with learners who have Complex Needs

It is important to carefully consider the why and how when using iPads with learners who have complex needs; asking the question 'Why am I doing this?' so that the use of an iPad does not become an end in itself, but rather a means of learning new skills.

Learners with Complex Needs need to experience and learn cognition, communication and social interaction skills. An environment which focuses on responding, interacting and communicating is essential. With careful planning, an iPad can become part of this responsive environment, creating opportunities for communication and interaction.

For more information on using technology with learners who have complex needs, see here: http://bit.ly/CSN-INFO.

App Wheel Key - Switch Access and CVI

Some Apps have been designed to use with a switch. These are indicated with a red border.

Apps which are particularly suitable for learners with a cortical visual impairment (CVI) have a blue border.

Identifying Suitable Apps

The wheel does not include every App available in each category, nor do the categories represent a comprehensive list of all developmental areas. We have selected particular areas where an iPad and app can be a useful teaching and support tool.

Some apps could fit within multiple categories, but have listed them under a single category that is particularly relevant to the app.

Guided Access

Many learners are so in love with the iPad itself (especially if they are used to using it primarily for watching TV, films and listening to music), that they can be more interested in pressing the 'home' button and swiping around rather than stick within one App. In order to support a learner to make best use of an app for learning and developing skills, Guided Access allows you to control which features of the iPad and app you want to make available, and which you want to 'lock'. For information on how to set up guided access see here: http://bit.ly/Guided-QG.

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