

## TOUCH SCREEN ACCESS

### Top tips to make learning easier:

Apps can be used for learning. Apps are complex, you get sound, sights (2D, 3D, moving / flashing), maybe vibration.



- Use the iPad in short intervals, for some children and young people 5 minutes is enough. For others you may need to limit the time!
- Check out: <https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/screen-time/> for guides on screen time and internet safety.
- Consider the time of day and the effect the iPad has. Is it alerting? Is it best to use it when the child or young person is most awake?
- Build on familiarity – use apps with familiar sights or sounds.
- As with all activities, communication is key. Introduce start and finish of activity in a way that is best for your child/young person (follow Speech and Language Therapy Advice). This may be using TaSSeLs on body signing, photo or symbol visual aids, the real object (iPad itself) etc...
- Use apps with familiar sights or sounds, teach the child or young person the activity, play it together. Some will move on too quickly due to poor attention or understanding and need adult support to learn how to use the app and progress skills within the app.

### The apps suggested are for children and young people with varying abilities such as:

#### Access (how you play the app)

*Random movement*

*Purposeful movement* (aware of the effect they have when they touch the screen. Screen is not touched/activated when the game is not in play)

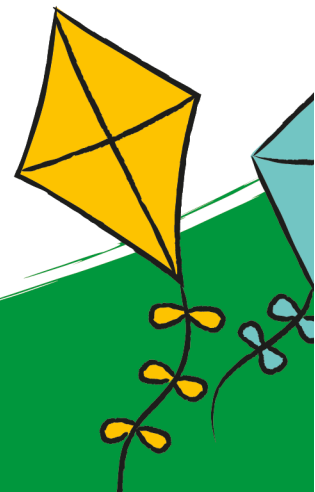
*Repeating the movement* (repeats the movement after the effect/app stops)

*Refining the movement* (touching an area of the screen in line with the game for a desired effect. Or altering the movement depending on what game is being played)

#### Motivated by effects

*Content/indifferent* (Hard to know if the child/young person likes the app)

*Preference/non-preference* (shows signs that they like/dislike the app)



## Set-up – getting the best out of your device

### What are your child's strengths? Do they like to listen?

Would a speaker or headphones help? Wireless Bluetooth and vibro-speakers are available on the internet to purchase. You can make sound from a phone louder by making your own speaker at home! Put your phone in an empty cup/bowl or use an empty toilet roll and cups! Child-friendly headphones with volume-limiting controls can be purchased, for example: [Comfy Headband Headphones](#)



### Do they like to watch?

Choose an app that suits visual skills. Can your child see still images or moving images more easily? Can they focus better if the background graphics are plain? Can they watch better if the images are in high contrast? Are they more attracted to images with faces?



Make looking at the screen easier by:

- Reducing glare from the screen – use a matte (non-shiny) screen protector.
- Avoiding overhead lighting/glare from windows – tilt the screen if needed.
- Positioning the screen with a plain background, avoiding curtains/walls that are 'busy'. Consider the iPad case and the room you are in. Is the lime green case or are moving people distracting?

### Do they like to touch?

Apps require attention, some children and young people need guidance to stay in the activity. You can set up guided access to help with this (a type of parental control).

Set up 'Guided Access' – which 'locks' the home screen. An adult can use guided access to restrict time allowed. You can control guided access using a passcode, triple click home button or touch ID.

- Go to Settings
- Accessibility
- Guided Access – switch it on and select method of control
- Go to the app you want to use, once open triple tap home button to start guided access.
- When the child has finished using the app you can triple tap home button again to end guided access.

Carefully position the iPad so that it is stable and within reach. Be careful that the position doesn't encourage worsening of posture.

Use screen protectors and robust casing to prevent breakages.

<b>Creativity</b>		
Draw with Stars!		Free with no ads
Pictello		£18.99
Garage Band		free
Finger Paint		free
Glow Draw		free
Fireworks		free
Fluidity		free
Singing fingers		0.99
bloom		£3.99
Air		£1.99
Virtuoso		free
Burp and Fart piano		free
<b>Communication / Buzzer</b>		
imovie		free
iSpeak Button		£3.99
ChatterPix Kids Give your photos a voice		Free
<b>Others</b>		
Koi Pond		free

## Where else to look?

<https://www.helpkidzlearn.com/apps>

<http://www.inclusive.co.uk/apps>

<https://www.senictsoftware.com/>

[www.lanbean.co.uk](http://www.lanbean.co.uk)

**WATCH OUT!** for free ads and use parental controls/guided access so there is no accidental access to inappropriate materials!

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>