**Access to Assistive Technology**

**The Access Group**

**National Training Event**

**Ace Centre  
Oxford**

**1st & 2nd March 2018**

ataccessgroup.org.uk

The Access Group

The AT Access group is a collection of individuals largely from the UK who have an interest in finding solutions for people with disabilities to access technology. This technology may come in many forms such as a communication device, a computer, a wheelchair or equipment to control the environment, such as doors, windows and telephones. ***How*** an individual accesses this technology is our main interest.

We meet as a group across the UK at least twice a year and exist online through an email forum where thoughts, equipment and issues can all be discussed in a friendly unbiased environment. The group is free and open to anyone.

The two day event is as a result of our desire to have more time to share our knowledge and experience with each other and update our skills in all things ***access.*** This year we have decided to have a beginner’s day and an advanced day.

**Access to Technology Training Event 2018 Programme**

**Day 1: Thursday 1st March**

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| **9.00 Registration & Coffee** |

9.30 **Where do we work?! What information do you need?  
Current situation (mapping) of EC, AAC, Wheelchair services and specialist controls and third-party sector.**

Aim to provide a brief update on the current developments at a National level within those sectors providing specialist electronic assistive technology – as well as starting to develop an understanding of where people are working and what is going in other sectors. There is a growing need to map services better to understand the need – and workforce developments (Resmag, Wheelchair services, COT) as well for service users. What do you want? Paul Hewett, RESMaG chair.

9.45 **OT in AT. Roles, Costs and More**

“Improving Lives, Saving Money. Paula Spencer, Northwest Assistive Technology

How we evidence the role of Occupational Therapy in EC and AAC. Sam McNeilly & Will Wade, Ace Centre.

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| **10.30 Refreshments** |

***Play & Early Years***

11.00 **Case study??**Special Effect??? Anyone?!

11.45 **Something** Claire Hayward

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| **12.30 Lunch** |

***Vision***

1.30 **The need to assess vision of clients with complex disabilities.**

Jodie Rogers, Kent ACAT.

2.30 **The development of a Eyegaze screening tool**  
Leo Whiteman, Lincolnshire

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| **3.15 Refreshments** |

3.30 **MAT-Doc v1.1** An overview of MAT-Doc (the Mounting Assistive Technology Documentation) and a chance for feedback into 1.1

Paul Hewett

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| **4.30 Close** |

**Discussion for organizing committee re: website**

**Day 2: Friday 2nd March**

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| **9.00 Registration & Coffee** |

***Integration***

9.30 **From chair to computer and back again**

A round up of current integration options. A beginner’s guide on the components needed to use one joystick – or set of switches to control the chair and a device. Charging devices from chairs. When? How? Should you?  
Followed by a practical session hands on with chairs.   
Paul / A.N.Other

10.15 **Your experiences with integration**We want to know your thoughts on integration.   
When do you integrate joystick access with a computer and when don’t you?

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| **11.00 Refreshments** |

**Show your creativity!**

*We want you to bring along your developments; custom mounts, switches, keyguards, software, electronics. What problem does it solve? Who was it for? Everyone will vote for their top 3 items to discuss! So be prepared to answer questions. Note: It can be anything – small or large that you or your team have made*

11.30 **Show & Tell discussions.**

12.15 **Bespoke switches** Practical for everyone to try working with a partner to make specialist switch mount using Polymorph.

Geoff Harbech to lead. Ace will buy switches and polymorph.

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| **1.00 Lunch** |

***Neuro***

1.45 **Does practice make perfect?**   
Current research from neuroscience and rehabilitation and its impact for eAT. Will look at the current field of EMG & EEG switches and present on current practice – opening the floor up to members to discuss issues and your own findings.

Will,

2.30 **Any ideas?**

Any ideas

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| **3.15 Refreshments** |

3.30 **New Chair! And Committee organizing!**

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| **4.30 Close** |