



Introduction

Table 1 provides an overview of the key findings of the initial investigation into what in regards to technology; other organisations and charities are recommending. Through highlighting the key points of interest and recording them in this way; patterns and trends in the areas and methods in which technology is being recommended have become noticeable. Table 2 has been derived in response to this; placing these key trends into columns and matching them to which charities and organisations have evidence of the trends present from the investigation undertaken of their website. Table 2 therefore offers a comparison and contrasting view of the findings.

Table 1 - Key Findings of Initial Investigation

Charity/Organisation	Website	Key Points of Interest
Becta	www.becta.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Case studies with a focus on using 'non-specialist' technologies in imaginative and innovative ways ➤ Links to software providers ➤ Factsheets to inspire the use of IT in different disability groups ➤ Emerging Technologies micro site
AbilityNet	www.abilitynet.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Examples of assistive technologies (both software and hardware) ➤ Detailed factsheets, information sheets and skill sheets on assistive technologies and configuring your computer to better meet the needs of the user ➤ Training on using assistive technologies ➤ Exploring AAC micro-site ➤ Focus on accessible websites
JISC – TechDis	http://www.techdis.ac.uk/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Accessible website toolbar ➤ Case studies of students with

		<p>disabilities using technology to support their learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Web2Access project: evaluating web 2.0 technologies for their accessibility ➤ Research and information on mobile device usage by disabled learners ➤ Accessibility passport
Deafax	www.deafax.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Guide: Transforming Lives Through ICT: recommended equipment and software
Autism Speaks	www.autismspeaks.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Science initiative: looking at Innovative Technology for Autism(ITA) ➤ Not much detail about technologies
The National Autistic Society	www.autism.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recommended Story Builder Software ➤ Information on visual supports ➤ Some recommended software ➤ Article on applications for people with autism ➤ Autism Data Library with various information sheets relevant to computing and technology

British Dyslexia Association	www.bdadyslexia.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Guide on using ICT to support a dyslexic child within a learning setting ➤ Examples of useful technologies for those with dyslexia ➤ Pointers to useful software ➤ Information sheets on using ICT ➤ Contact: E.A Draffan worked with several charities on a range of projects
Dyslexia Action	www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Not really anything ICT specific ➤ Although make good use of web 2.0 widgets and links throughout the site
Dyspraxia Foundation	www.dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No references to technology use
Decibels	www.decibels.org.uk/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Donated funds to Deafax's Virtual Learning Centre ➤ Interest in people with special needs/disabilities enabling them to learn, appreciate and enjoy music through the use of technology ➤ No actual recommendations for IT at the moment
NAGC	www.nagcbrtain.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Interactive micro-sites for children

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No technology recommendations
Action for Children	www.actionforchildren.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use of Web 2.0 technologies ➤ Interested in young people communicating through technology ➤ Nothing active planned or taking place in regards to technology
Action for Sick Children	www.actionforsickchildren.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No references to technology use
Action for Kids	www.actionforkids.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No references to technology use
Newlife Foundation for Disabled Children	www.newlifecharity.co.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No references to technology use
Scope	www.scope.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use of Web 2.0 technologies ➤ Supporting communication through AAC ➤ Reviews of technologies ➤ Doesn't maintain a website so past project details unavailable
Mencap	www.mencap.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Factsheet on communication ➤ LiveNet project ➤ Case Study: William's IT Skills secure him a job
Communication Matters	www.communicationmatters.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Low technology and high technology

		<p>AAC recommendations of resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Information sheets: accessing communication aids via a computer ➤ Details of suppliers of AAC software
Find a Voice	www.findavoice.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Social media bar at the bottom of each page ➤ Resource library that allows borrowing and testing of AAC resources ➤ Communication aids article ➤ ICT choices programme ➤ Observations of ICT for communication purposes field
1Voice	www.1voice.info	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mention of use of AAC aids to communicate ➤ Are careful not to recommend anything as an organisation
EmpTech	www.emptech.info	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Database of assistive technologies
ACE Centre	www.ace-centre.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Several projects involving encouraging ICT use ➤ Recommended software and

		<p>resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Case studies
Viewtalk	www.viewtalk.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Uses WinkBall ➤ Social media way of communicating., An evolution of Facebook etc. but offers greater accessibility ➤ Video messages/sharing
FAST	www.fastuk.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Interest in up-to-date technologies ➤ ASK-IT project ➤ AAC references ➤ Research publications library ➤ Database on organisations that fund research and development in the field of assistive technology
OneVoice ICT	www.onevoiceict.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Voice for ICT accessibility and usability ➤ Reference to charity Phoneability ➤ Don't seem to be very active
Phoneability	www.phoneability.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Promoting accessibility to ICT for older and disabled people

Action for Children									X
Action for Sick Children	X								
Action for Kids	X								
Newlife Foundation for Disabled Children	X								
Scope		X	X	X				X	X
Mencap					X		X	X	X
Communication Matters		X	X	X				X	
Find a Voice				X	X	X	X	X	X
1Voice				X					
EmpTech		X	X	X		X			
ACE Centre		X	X	X	X		X	X	
Viewtalk			X				X		X
FAST		X	X	X	X	X	X		X
OneVoice ICT			X						

Phoneability		X	X					X	X
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