Assistive Technology

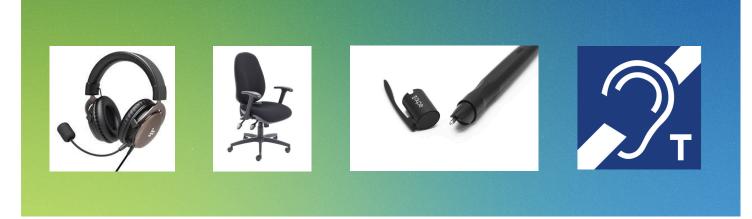## What is Assistive Technology in Education?

Assistive technology in education refers to a broad array of devices, software, and tools designed to support students with disabilities or learning differences, enabling them to engage more fully in the learning process This includes, for example, software that helps with spelling and grammar, digital pens for recordings lectures, adapted tools for those with visual or hearing impairments, and alternative inputs for students with mobility issues. The primary goal of assistive technology is to provide students with equal access to educational opportunities, fostering greater independence and participation in the lecture rooms/studios.

NCAD's Access Service has an AT Specialist, Hannah Ní Mhaonaigh, who can provide technology and training to students who are Registered with Learning Support. Usually, recommendations will be made for AT when you attend your Needs Assessment. If you avail of Learning Support and would like to look at AT options, please make an appointment with the AT Specialist by emailing: assistivetechnology@staff.ncad.ie

AT- Software

AT Softwares can assist people in many areas such as: spelling/grammar, organisation, reading, retaining or taking in information. For example; Zotero is a citation/referencing software, Natural reader- is an online text to speech software, Speechnotes- is a speech to text extension, Visor- is a online reading aid extension and Grammarly is a spelling and grammar software. All the ones I named above are free or have a free version or extension!

AT-Hardware

Hardware can be physical and adaptable aids.

For example: a specialised mouse, customised chair, headphones or a livescribe echo (which is an audio note taker) or someone's hearing aid is set to T-Setting to interact with an induction loop system, so they can hear a tutor speaking in a lecture clearly.

AT Specialist
Appointment availability
Location & Times

Monday 9-4pm: (On Campus, Learning Support Office, Room G16 School of Design)

Tuesday 9-4pm:(Remote on Zoom)

Wednesday 9-4pm:(On Campus, Learning Support Office, Room G16 School of Design)

Thursday 9-1pm: (Remote on Zoom)

To make an appointment with AT Specialist or have any questions please contact:

Email - assistivetechnology@staff.ncad.ie

Tel - 01 636 4314