

Title of presentation

'Discover your Assistive Technology' - generating AT awareness

Presenters

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Abstract

Assistive Technology (AT) is part of the inclusive approach that Universal Design for Learning embodies. AT has long been a highly specialised topic, and still does, but finally it is mainstream in the digital eco-systems of students and staff in the form of Office 365 and Google. Now we have access to paid and free types of AT in our devices but awareness about this range of diverse AT that can assist the diversity in our Education landscapes is yet to be tapped. AHEAD, an NGO in Ireland that advocates Universal Design for Learning (UDL), has created an online tool that aims to make the search for types of AT that suit the needs of a person in education or work and to make this process easy for the AT curious. We developed this tool with staff and students in HE and FE and in the end the 'Discover your AT' was crafted <https://ahead.ie/Discover-your-AT>. Three simple question guide the user that lead them to a bespoke list of AT starting points. A webpage is dedicated to each and people can submit AT content for the resource also. Our aim is to generate more AT awareness, to further help all to embed AT into the student and staff culture as AT is now ubiquitous. All we ask you to do is just take the time to discover your AT.