

## **B4-Assistive Technologies available for Visually Impaired people, Hearing Impaired People and Cognitive Impaired People**

An assistive technology device, as defined by the United States Assistive Technology Act of 1998 , is any *"product, device, or equipment, whether acquired commercially, modified or customized, that is used to maintain, increase, or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities."*  
<http://usability.com.au/resources/statistics.cfm>

### **Categories of Assistive Technology for Person with Cognitive Impairment**

1. Cosmobot play therapy system designed to motivate children to participate in therapy
2. Assistive Listening Devices (Personal FM Systems, sound amplifiers, the listener)
3. scanners
4. word prediction software (write out loud, soothsayer, WordQ)
5. cueing-memory aids (palm organizers, watch minders, talking organizer, pocket PC, pocket coach, schedule assistant)
6. reading, writing and comprehension tools (readers, scanners)
7. augmentative communication devices (Dynavox, Dialect, Dynamo, Dynamyte)

### **Communication and Information Technology in UK**

AbilityNet provides a free information and advice service on all aspects of computers and technology for disabled people.

<http://www.abilitynet.org.uk/content/home.htm>

Access All Areas: disability, technology and learning. Published by TechDis jointly with the Association for Learning Technology, Access All Areas contains 17 chapters covering issues of technology and disability.

<http://www.techdis.ac.uk/accessallareas/AAA.pdf>

TechDis a JISC service, which has superseded DISinHE, aimed at enhancing access, through technology, to learning and teaching, research and administration activities for students and staff with disabilities in further and higher education.

<http://www.techdis.ac.uk>

TechDis Accessibility Database formerly the National Internet Accessibility Database, NIAD, provides a vast range of on-line information about products available to assist those with disabilities (can also be reached through the TechDis home page).

<http://www.niad.sussex.ac.uk>