

# G3M

## Special Education



Solution Expert  
Education

## Supporting Learners

At GBM we believe that education should be accessible to all. We know that as many as 20% of children at some point in their educational career will have special needs, and as little as 2% of them will have their needs addressed. Technology now gives teachers the opportunity to address the other 18% of student's like never before.

The GBM Education team have worked with schools nationally to create custom technology solutions so their student's have full access to the curriculum. We have helped student's in a range of areas:

- Reading, writing, number work and understanding
- Expressing themselves and understanding what others are saying
- Developing social skills
- Organising themselves during the school day and while at home
- Overcome sensory or physical issues which had previously affected them in school

As an Apple Solutions Expert in Education we understand how Apple technology can be used in schools to effect change. iPad has proved consistently to be the best 'tablet tool' in the classroom, loved by student's, teachers and parents alike. It gives student's access to information from around the world but it also makes it easier for SEN student's to comprehend the world right in front of them and to communicate with those around them, simple things that most of us take for granted.

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At GBM our education team are so passionate about making education accessible to all they went one step further and became specialists in Special Education Needs & Assistive technologies. Alongside iPad these technologies are changing lives everyday. Whether its braille displays or switches, we can find a solution for your student's.

### What is different about GBM

- We will come to you and give initial advice on how Apple technology can support SEN student's and teachers
- Fully assess each individual student's needs and create a custom technology solution
- Create a fully-inclusive 1:1\* environment for student's
- Provide technical support setting up the technology and be around afterwards to help should you have any issues
- Train all your staff in using the technology and a range of apps
- Provide on-going CPD and support to allow your staff to become confident and competent users of the technology



\* 1:1 refers to each student having an iPad in class, 1 student + 1 iPad

# Why Apple is made for SEN

Every Mac and iOS device (iPad, iPhone, iPod) comes with amazing built-in accessibility features. These features mean that every student can learn in their own individual way in the classroom.

Below are some of the great features in iOS devices you might not know about.

## Addressing Visual Impairments with iOS

**VoiceOver** is a screen descriptive tool that lets student's know what's happening on their iOS device and helps them navigate through the use of apps. Student's can hear a description of everything happening on the screen and can adjust the **VoiceOver** speaking rate and pitch to suit their preference. GBM can also provide third party technologies, such as bluetooth Braille displays, allowing student's to access all the functionality of their iOS device, in conjunction with **VoiceOver** to easily navigate through the apps they are using.

**Zoom** is a built in screen magnifier that works anywhere is iOS including all apps from the App Store. The maximum zoom level of 500% can easily be set by the student and when zoomed in everything works as normal allowing student's to use all the familiar gestures to navigate their device.

## Addressing Hearing Impairments with iOS

All iOS devices can connect to bluetooth hearing aids. Student's using **Made for iPhone** hearing aids can not only control the hearing aid from their iOS device, but they can also use it to listen to their iOS device. The **Mono Audio** option will also allow student's who are deaf or hard of hearing in one ear to listen to both channels of a stereo recording at once. Student's can also balance the volume

between left and right ears, allowing them to gain the optimum experience when listening to music, videos or podcasts.

**FaceTime** is also ideal for student's who communicate using sign language. Every gesture and facial expression shows in crystal clear detail through the use of Retina displays

## Addressing Physical Disabilities with iOS

By combining assistive technology with switch controls we can give student's who have limited mobility access to all the functionality of their iOS devices through the use of movement. The device will then scan through all the options available, selecting them using this switch. For example, these switches could be an assistive device on a wheelchair or using the iOS camera to detect head movement. At GBM, we have a wide range of third party accessories that allow student's to further personalise their experience, including wheelchair iPad mounts and bluetooth switches.

## Learning Difficulties

There are hundreds of great apps to support SEN children but often they have difficulty staying on task, particularly children with autism or other sensory challenges. By enabling **Guided Access** on an iOS device a teacher can limit that device to a single app by disabling the home button, stopping the child moving off task. **Guided Access** also allows the teacher to stop buttons such as the sleep key or volume being pressed, or even restricting certain areas of the screen so that they can't be touched whilst using the app. This ensures that the student cannot get distracted by taps or gestures that move them away from the task.