

Jack's story

After much support from a specialist teaching assistant and others, Jack has begun to make great strides in using the eye gazing technology. He already has good eye pointing skills and scanning skills, but little or no meaningful control over his hand or leg movements. He is now learning to hold his gaze for longer periods in order to make a choice between a number of icons.

It has taken four years of careful and painstaking assessment and teaching to reach this stage with Jack. The financial support from education and NHS budget holders to purchase this high-tech device has been essential but the school has also had to dedicate at least as much in the way of financial and human resources.

It became apparent that skilled, additional teaching assistant support for the regular class team was necessary to give Jack sufficient time with the hardware and software to develop his skills. Adding new software also takes time.