Queen's University Belfast

Assistive technology

Library services

The following assistive software is available on most PCs in the Queen's libraries. To access, just click on the red 'Accessibility' icon:

ZoomText V9 allows users with a visual impairment to access a PC through screen magnification and voice synthesizer feedback. Zoom Text reads documents, web pages and email - which the user is able to listen to using headphones or the computer's speakers.

Inspiration is most widely used for building mind maps. Mind maps are used to generate, visualise, structure, and classify ideas, and as an aid in study, organisation, problem solving, decision making, and writing.

Jaws provides access to software applications and the Internet for those who are blind or have a visual impairment and will read information from the screen aloud along with other PC applications.

Read & Write Gold offers assistance with reading and writing. Functions include text-to-speech, phonetic spell checker, word prediction, speaking dictionary and a scanning facility. It is a widely used and useful package for dyslexic students.

The following Microsoft accessibility applications are also available:

- Narrator
- On screen keyboard
- Window's accessibility wizard

In addition, The McClay Library also has the following equipment that may be of use to students:

- A **Zoom-ex scanner** is available to borrow from the Borrower Services Desk in the McClay Library. This lightweight, portable scanner turns the computer it is used with into a scanner, reader and magnifier for blind or visually impaired students.

- A desktop **CCTV magnifier** is located on Floor 2 of the McClay Library

- **Adjustable tables** are also available on each floor of the McClay Library

Further information on available support for disabled students at Queen's is available by contacting Disability Services: http://www.qub.ac.uk/directorates/sgc/disability/

Further information on Library Services is available online at:
http://www.qub.ac.uk/lib/UsingtheLibrary/DisabilityandAdditionalServices/