

North West Assistive Technology (NWAT)

‘Changing Lives Through Technology’

Patient Information Leaflet

Ground Floor, Aintree House
Aintree University Hospital
Liverpool L9 7AL

Helpline: 0151-529-2022
Email: NWAT@aintree.nhs.uk

Introduction

NWAT is an NHS Regional Service that provides specialist assistive technology, advice and support to **clients with complex needs**.

The team enables clients to **maintain their independence** through the use of technology.

The service covers a population of over six million people in Cheshire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria.

The clients, **both adults and children**, have a wide range of complex conditions. Some examples may include:

- Brain Injury
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Cerebral Palsy
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Motor Neurone Disease
- Parkinson’s Disease
- Spinal Injury

What is Assistive Technology?

Independence can be gained through the installation of various pieces of equipment:

- **Intercom System and Door Release**

(Provided that the specialist lock is funded and installed by a third party supplier i.e. Housing Association, Social Services, Charitable Fund or Private Funding)

- **Hands-Free Telephone**
- Access to **mobile phones, laptops and PC’s**.
- Turning on a **lamp or a fan**
- Access to **most entertainment equipment** (TV, Sky, Virgin, DVD, CD player, Radio)
- Access to a **pager** to alert carers when comfort calls are required.

We are not an emergency service.

How to access Assistive Technology

Referral forms can be found on the below website:

<http://www.aintreehospital.nhs.uk/our-services/a-z-of-services/north-west-assistive-technology/>

Please note: provision of the service is **not subject to means-testing**. The service is fully funded by NHS England.

However, there are **inclusion and exclusion criteria** which can be found at:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/complex-disability-equipment-environmental-controls-all-ages.pdf>

Referrals are to be completed by **health and social care professionals**. *Self-referrals can be accepted where they are subsequently endorsed by a health or social care professional.*

For any advice on how to complete or send in the referral, or if you have queries about our inclusion specification then contact the helpline on:

Telephone: 0151 529 2022

Other Useful Resources

Communication

Ace Communications

<https://acecentre.org.uk/>

(Provide augmented communication aids across the whole of the North West)

General Organisations

Multiple Sclerosis Society

<https://www.mssociety.org.uk/>

Motor Neurone Disease Association

<https://www.mndassociation.org/>

Apple

<https://www.apple.com/uk/accessibility>

Gaming Resources

Special Effect

<https://www.specialeffect.org.uk>

One Switch

<http://www.oneswitch.org.uk/>

Everyone Can

<https://www.everyonecan.org.uk/>

Lepmis

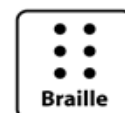
<https://www.lepmis.co.uk/>

Microsoft

<https://www.xbox.com/en-US/xbox-one/accessibility>

Able Gamers

<https://ablegamers.org/>



If you require a special edition of this leaflet

This leaflet is available in large print, Braille, on audio tape or disk and in other languages on request. Please contact:

Tel No: 0151 529 2906

Email: interpretationandtranslation@aintree.nhs.uk