



## Mike Thrussell

Director | Independent Assistive Technology Consultant

Founder of access: technology in 2012, overseeing all client interventions, based in Thirsk, North Yorkshire, specialising in promoting independence through the development of bespoke and innovative technical solutions.

### Personal Profile

- A qualified teacher with 13 years' experience providing assistive technology (AT) interventions for people with disabilities
- Creator of innovative online AT resources regularly used by thousands of people all over the world
- Speaker and trainer, sharing best practice in the delivery of AT
- CEO of Level Up Charity, providing assessment, intervention, and equipment to children without access to funding streams
- Two of Mike's four children with additional educational needs (autism/ cerebral visual impairment) use assistive technologies to support their communication and independent learning

### Contact



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### Employment

#### Company Director

access: technology  
(2012 – Present)

#### Lead Assistive Technologist

Henshaws Specialist College  
(2008 – 2016)

References on request.

### Education & Qualifications

#### Safeguarding Adults & Children – Level 3

Sayers Social Care Consultancy (2022)

#### MSc Educational Assistive Technology

University of Dundee (2022)

#### Specialist Wheelchair Mounting Certification

Rehadapt (2021)

#### Certificate in Brain Injury Studies (Headway)

University of Northampton (2021)

#### PGCert Technology Enhanced Learning

University of Huddersfield (2016)

#### Professional Graduate Certificate in Education

University of Huddersfield (2010)

#### Makaton – Level 4

Makaton Foundation (2008)

#### BSc (Hons) Creative Music & Sound Technology

Leeds Metropolitan University (2005)

## **Mike Thrussell - Current Caseload:**

### **Supporting multiple clients:**

- between the ages of 4 - 55
- located across the UK
- with acquired brain injury, cerebral palsy, autism, down syndrome, sensory impairments, PMLD, behavioural and social/emotional difficulties
- at home and in both mainstream and special education settings

### **Responsibilities:**

- Carrying out initial assessments of need in clients' home and school environments
- Compiling personalised recommendation reports and costings for assistive technology (AT) solutions, intervention, development and training
- Attending and contributing toward EHCP review processes and MDT meetings
- Set up and ongoing maintenance of recommended AT solutions
- Parent/staff/carer/school training
- Development and delivery of bespoke intervention sessions designed to ensure clients' confidence and efficiency in using AT solutions
- Regular review of AT provision to support the client in the achievement of current goals and to offer solutions to any anticipated/current barriers to access, independence, learning or entertainment as they arise
- Development of new AT technologies in response to clients' individual needs

### **School Support:**

- evaluating their assistive technology provision
- offering advice and guidance regarding both software and hardware solutions pertinent to the effective education of all pupils
- delivering bespoke staff training

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