

Key Organisations and Frameworks Across the Education-to-Employment Continuum

1. Early Childhood

a. Statutory & Public Services

- i. NHS Children's Speech and Language Therapy Services – Early referral and communication support pathways.
- ii. Local Authority SEND Services (including SENDIASS) – Information, advice and support for families navigating SEND provision.
- iii. Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) – Statutory framework for children and young people aged 0–25 with significant needs.

b. Specialist & Family Support Organisations

- i. Ace Centre – Assessment and guidance on assistive communication technology.
- ii. Contact – Support and advice for families of disabled children.
- iii. National Deaf Children's Society / RNIB – Specialist sensory impairment support and ATech guidance.

2. School Years

a. National Policy and System Frameworks

- i. Department for Education SEND **Every Child Achieving and Thriving**
- ii. National Professional Qualification Framework – Leadership development including inclusive practice.

b. Professional & Training Bodies

- i. NASEN – SEND training and classroom inclusion resources.
- ii. Whole School SEND Consortium – DfE-funded support for mainstream schools.
- iii. AbilityNet – Digital accessibility guidance for educators.

c. Mainstream Accessibility Infrastructure

- i. Microsoft Immersive Reader
- ii. Google Workspace accessibility features
- iii. Apple and Chromebook accessibility tools
- iv. Built-in live captioning in Teams and Meet
- v. These tools represent the “free ATech baseline” within most school device ecosystems.

3. Further Education and Supported Internships

a. Transition and Employment Programmes

- i. Supported Internships (DfE) – Structured work-based transition programmes.
- ii. Connect to Work – Employment reform programme supporting disabled people and those with health conditions.
- iii. Individual Placement and Support (IPS) – Evidence-based supported employment model.

- b. **Funding Mechanisms**
 - i. Access to Work – Workplace adjustment funding.
 - ii. Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) – Specialist support in higher education.
 - c. **Sector Bodies**
 - i. BASE – Supported employment standards and job coach training.
 - ii. Natspec – Specialist further education provider network.
 - iii. Association of Colleges (AoC) – FE sector representation.
- 4. Early Career**
- a. **Legal and Regulatory Frameworks**
 - i. Equality Act 2010 – Duty to make reasonable adjustments.
 - ii. Health and Safety Executive guidance – Workplace adjustment standards.
 - b. **Employer Engagement and Standards**
 - i. Disability Confident Scheme – Employer commitment framework.
 - ii. Business Disability Forum – Employer benchmarking and advisory support.
 - iii. CIPD – Inclusive HR guidance.
 - c. **Workplace Technology and Practice**
 - i. Access to Work – Adjustment funding for employees.
 - ii. AbilityNet workplace assessments – Practical ATech advice for employers.
 - iii. Enterprise accessibility centres (Microsoft 365, Google Workspace).
- 5. Later Working Life**
- a. **Employment Retention and Health**
 - i. DWP Health and Disability White Paper – Reform agenda for reducing economic inactivity.
 - ii. Midlife MOT – Mid-career skills and health planning.
 - iii. Occupational Health Services – Workplace adjustment and phased return support.
 - b. **Digital Inclusion and Economic Participation**
 - i. Good Things Foundation – National digital inclusion initiatives.
 - ii. Department for Science, Innovation and Technology – Digital inclusion strategy.
 - iii. UK Consumer Digital Index – Tracking digital capability gaps.
 - c. **Financial and Public Service Accessibility**
 - i. Financial Conduct Authority Consumer Duty – Accessibility obligations for firms.
 - ii. GOV.UK accessibility standards – Public sector digital compliance.
 - iii. Project Nemo – Financial services accessibility initiative.
- 6. Across the Lifetime**

- a. Certain organisations and frameworks operate across multiple life stages:
 - i. Scope – Disability equality and employment advocacy.
 - ii. Karten Network – Community-based technology centres.
 - iii. Ace Centre – Communication and assistive technology expertise.
 - iv. BASE – Quality standards for supported employment.
 - v. Access to Work – Adjustment funding across working life.