

Transcript

Supporting people with learning disabilities to use technology: Understanding what technology can offer

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JANE SEALE:

Hi. I'm Jane Seale from The Open University. I've been working with self-advocacy groups to find out how best to support people with learning disabilities to access and use technology. In this video, self-advocates and support workers will talk about how to help people with learning disabilities to understand the different things they can use technology for. This is important because it helps them to decide if and how they might like to use technologies in their own lives.

ROBERT:

I use my laptop for work meetings, emails, and PayPal. And then I use my phones for social media and some games and family and friends. I use like Facebook, bit of Snapchat with some friends, WhatsApp in case of contact for work members and friends, and family as well. So, I use a lot of social media because I tend to use other apps as well to contact some-- like different people are in other countries. Some of my friends are in other countries. So, it's good to have-- to show that I can have friends elsewhere.

VICKY:

So, if you talk about what kind of technologies you use and what you use them for. So, tell them about your tablet.

JEAN:

I've got a tablet. I play some things on it, don't I?

VICKY:

Yeah. What do you like to do on it?

JEAN:

I do music.

VICKY:

Yeah. And why don't you tell them a few of your favourite things to listen to.

JEAN:

Yeah. The cab-- the band.

VICKY:

The marching band.

JEAN:

Yeah. And what else do I like? Sing to it.

VICKY:

Yeah, I've seen you listen to some like Western type songs.

JEAN:

Yeah, yeah. When that young-- the cowboy sings on his guitar.

JOSH:

I'd say just for technology, I'd say it's a really helpful thing with giving out information, talking to people nowadays.

CATHY:

My dad ordered me a tablet because I was getting rather fed up and I was also using my dad's laptop as well because, to start with, my tablet, all that I had on was like games and stuff. And because of the COVID, my drama, which is known as Under the Stars, they started to phone us and said that they were going to do the drama on Zoom.

So, I was like telling my dad that they were going to start doing it on Zoom, so he ended up getting-- bringing his tablet-- his laptop down so that I could carry on seeing my friends and doing my drama on the Zoom. So, he was bringing that down and stuff like that just so that I could carry on doing my drama on Zoom.

TRACEY:

I like to listen to the news and listen to the music.

VICKY:

What kind of music do you like?

TRACEY:

I like the '90s and the '50s. And I like watching videos on it.

VICKY:

What kind of technology do you use and what do you use it for?

KEVIN:

I have a-- I have a smartphone.

VICKY:

And what do you do with your smartphone?

KEVIN:

With my smartphone I do Zoom and joining Zoom activities.

VICKY:

Yeah. What's your favourite activity?

KEVIN:

Bingo.

VICKY:

Yeah. What do you like about doing things on Zoom?

KEVIN:

It's of a group. It's nice to see other people.