



## **Access to Interactive Whiteboards (IWB)**

- **Uncluttered Screens** – keep screen layouts clear and simple, strong contrasts with plain backgrounds. Avoid having too much content on one screen.
- **Seating of pupil** – place in preferred position for board access (centrally, or slightly to left or right according to individual visual needs).
- **Screen Sharing** – there are a range of free screen sharing apps that may be suitable for your educational setting. It may be something that you need to discuss with your Technician or IT dept. to see which is most suitable to install. The most common ones used are – TeamViewer, Join Me, Splashtop, Real VNC. These allow your PC/laptop to share the information being presented on the Interactive Whiteboard with a pupil's iPad or laptop. The pupil cannot control the screen, it is a pure echo.
- **Print copy** – if screen sharing is not possible, ensure pupil has a print copy.
- **Lighting** – consider the lighting in the room, is it sufficient for the pupil to see the iPad/ device/ print copy? Is there any glare from the IWB/windows?
- **Zoom** – use the zoom or the magnifier facilities in the *Accessibility Settings* to show small items more clearly.
- **Ask pupil** – check what the pupil can see by asking them to read something from the board. **NB:** *Do this discreetly before the lesson.*
- **Copying from the board** – many children who have a vision impairment will find it difficult to alter their focus between the board in the distance and their book in front of them. Constantly having to re-find their place on the board can also be difficult. Try to avoid unnecessary copying from the board.
- **Verbal descriptions** – name items and give clear verbal description of all the screens and/or encourage other pupils to give those descriptions. Face the pupils when you are giving descriptions.
- **Speed of presenting materials** – keep screen changes, writing, drawing and annotations slow. Scrolling text can be difficult to follow. Manage without if possible.
- **Concrete reinforcement** – using objects or apparatus may be helpful for vision impaired pupils.