

Supportive Services for visually impaired students

Peggy Ko December 6, 2013



Hong Kong Blind Union

- was established in 1964;
- is the first self-help organization founded and managed by people with visual impairment in Hong Kong;
- aims at promoting the spirit of self-help and mutual-help among visually impaired people as well as striving for equality, independence and opportunities for them.



Jockey Club E-Learning For All (ELFA) Project





Project information:

- Sponsored by Quality Education Fund from May 2011 to April 2013 (Accessible E-Learning Support Project)
- Sponsored by Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust from August 2013 to July 2016 and renamed as Jockey Club E-Learning For All Project





Objectives

To bridge the learning gap between students with and without disabilities by providing various kinds of supportive services for print disabled students.





Target:

- o students with print disabilities, including:
 - ovisual impairment;
 - physical impairments (unable to hold or manipulate a book)
 - odyslexia;
- o their parents and teachers;
- agencies serving students with print disabilities.





Services

 Production of learning materials in accessible electronic and tactile format









Services

- Training and support
 - to provide technical support and consultancy service to students, parents and teachers on the use of assistive devices









Services

- R & D on Assistive aids
 - to evaluate latest technical aids and develop suitable software for the use of the target students















- The first digital assistant that support Cantonese, Putonghua and English Braille over the World;
- Various built-in functions, Visually Impaired users can take notes and enjoy readings anytime, anywhere;
- Connecting with Computer and Smartphone as Braille display machine;
- Handy with only 300g;
- A more compatible price than other similar products.





Development of software

- NVDA (Hong Kong version) screen reading software
- Easydots EasyDots is a Cantonese Braille input method
- BRITE & Putonghua BRITE translating traditional Chinese characters to both Cantonese and Putonghua Braille
- Mathcast Math reading and editing software



Jockey Club Vocational and Educational Resources Centre (VERC)

Supportive Services for Visually Impaired Students



Objectives

- to foster positive and whole-person development of visually impaired (VI) students;
- to support VI students' parents, teachers and social workers;
- to assist VI students to face the New Senior Secondary curriculum, in particular fulfill the requirements of the Other Learning Experiences;
- to promote the integration of VI students into the society.



Target:

- students with visual impairment;
- parents, teachers and social workers of VI students.



Services

- Other Learning Experiences (OLE) activities suitable for VI students;
- Supportive and developmental groups for VI students with different needs;
- Counseling service for VI students;
- 1-to-1 tutorial classes for VI students with trained voluntary tutors (held in our centre);
- Consultation service for VI students' parents, teachers and social workers.





Other Learning Experiences (OLE) activities



Inclusive school talks



Supportive Services



Educational Services



THANK YOU!



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