

12th August 2020

The 2020 return to school is like no other and it's giving us all plenty to think about. For students, parents and teachers, everyone is looking and planning ahead to figure out how best to safely navigate school in the midst of Covid 19. We want to share with you details of AT resources/webinars that are currently available which we hope will be useful. Please share far and wide.



If you're a class teacher, you have lots to think about for the big return to school. Things are going to be different – lots of time washing hands and keeping apart while also trying to cover the curriculum. In light of this, we thought we'd try and give you some help!

If you're teaching infants or you're in a SET position, you won't want to miss this talk with Claire and Dee this Thursday at 8pm. You'll be able to join in the conversation on Facebook and YouTube Live. To tune in, go to:

- Facebook
ive: <https://www.facebook.com/mashireland/videos/597593844257373/>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r0cAjqBeptw>

The Roadmap to reopening schools is a very long document. Top Teaching Resources has written a fantastic blog post to summarise the whole thing:-

[SCHOOLS REOPENING WHAT TEACHERS NEED TO KNOW](#)

How will your classroom look in September? With groups now called pods and classrooms renamed bubbles, how many pods are you going to fit in your bubble? Read some ideas here:-

[SQUEEZING PUPILS INTO PODS](#)

For further info: hello@mash.ie



For many children, the new school term will be the first time they have set foot in a classroom in over five months. Starting a new school year can present challenges under normal circumstances but this year children are also going to have to adjust to the new safe routines and procedures schools have worked hard to introduce in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

This free toolkit includes symbol materials to help parents support their children returning to school. Resources include:

- **Social Stories** - to help reduce anxiety and prepare children for changes in routine and how school life will have altered.
- **Planners, checklists and reward charts** to support structure, routine, behaviour and independence.
- **Emotional and wellbeing supports** to help children talk about how they are feeling.

A **maths mat** and **science experiment** to ease them back into curriculum learning.

[BACK TO SCHOOL PARENT TOOLKIT](#)



Texthelp adds speech, reading, and translation support to websites facilitating access and participation for people with Dyslexia, Low Literacy, English as a Second Language, and those with mild visual impairments. They're offering a free 90 day trial. Check it out! [BROWSEALOUD FREE 90 DAY TRIAL](#)



Safe Care Technologies provides a wide range of products that work together to create a real assistive technology solution to help people with a disability or impairment live a better quality of life. **They are currently offering a wide range of FREE webinars covering** communication devices and software, environmental control, multi-sensory and much more. Some of their upcoming webinars include:

[PREMIUM ASSESSMENT KIT INTRODUCTION WEBINAR](#)

Closing The Gap

FREE Back to School Resources and Exclusive Offers from Today's Leading Assistive Technology Manufacturers including App2Speak, ESight and Widgit.

[FREE RESOURCES](#)

Free Training & Resources

for professionals working with individuals with disabilities



A wide range of free AT training, resources and webinars for those working with people with disabilities.

[ABLENET FREE BACK TO SCHOOL WEBINARS](#)

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