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Altice Foundation supports the "Advanced Reading with Screens" Project

The Altice Foundation, within the scope of the protocol signed with the Regional Direction of Education, and, more specifically, the "Advanced Reading with Screens" project, made screens available to students from underprivileged socioeconomical backgrounds, who attend the 1st cycle, have specific learning desabilities and reading and writing deficit. The "Advanced Reading with Screens" project is aimed at students who due to the barriers experienced in learning, whether due to their mother tongue not being Portuguese or because of learning difficulties see their learning success compromised, both in understanding, oral/written expression and reading, in addition to attention and concentration deficit.

The goal is to allow these pupils who are disadvantaged better access to education and learning in equity, providing computer equipment considered to be essential assistive technologies and support products for the promotion of learning and the development of their reading and writing skills.

The use of support products in carrying out school tasks helps to achieve positive goals, as the student is able to overcome or compensate for difficulties in reading and/or writing (whether temporarily incapacitated or with a permanent disability). It is intended that students use a screen with a keyboard (provided by the Altice Foundation) with access to digital school textbooks (provided by the Ministry of Education), as well as the Office 365 learning tools (provided by the Regional Secretariat for Education, Science and Technology).

The selection of support products is carried out during a specialized evaluation, conducted by a specialized teacher, or another technician who has requested it to the Acessibility and Assistive Technology Service of Education Services and the legal guardian.

These tools aim at motivate and, of course, improve school skills and, consequently, the achivement of academic success of these students.











Supportive Technology for Students with Learning Disabilities

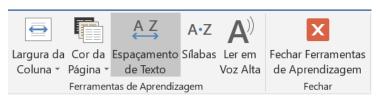
Given the growing need to use support technologies for students with Learning Disabilities (LD), or other difficulties that affect reading and writing, we share an article on this matter in order to publicize its importance.

Assistive Technology (AT) is defined as any device, equipment or system that helps to overcome or compensate for a pupil's specific learning difficulties.

Over the last few decades several studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of assistive technologies for individuals with AD. ATs do not eliminate learning difficulties, nor do they exempt other compensatory interventions but they can help students reach their potential as they allow them to take advantage of their strengths and overcome their areas of difficulty. On one hand, a student who has difficulties in reading, but who has good perception and listening skills can benefit from advanced reading of digital or listening of audiobooks. On the other hand, a student with writing difficulties can resort to voice typing and dictate his report, use the predictor or the spell checker and compensate for his difficulties maintaining his autonomy and actively participating in learning.

The name of the article is *Supportive Technology for Children with Learning Disabilities: An Overview* by Kristin Stanberry and Marshall H. Raskind.











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