

Personalised Technology



Hft uses Personalised Technology (PT) – assistive technology tailored to individual needs – to help give people more choice and control over their lives.

PT can be any specialist equipment or mainstream product which makes things easier for the person, keeps them safe, or helps them to achieve their goals.

The benefits

Personalised Technology can help people with learning disabilities to:

- Grow in confidence and independence
- Achieve greater privacy, dignity and safety
- Achieve personal goals and do things they never dreamed possible
- Adapt to their changing needs and health concerns as they grow older
- Find a voice and gain control over their own lives
- Make choices about how they want to live

Personalised Technology can help make funds go further by reducing reliance on support workers for everyday tasks. This means that the allocated support time can be better used, to help the people we support to achieve other goals.

Endless possibilities

Once the people we support and their families see what can be achieved with the right technology in place, they are encouraged to explore other activities that they never previously thought possible.

Types of PT

- **Kettles** that safely dispense a precise amount of boiling water into a mug
- **Big button communication aids** for those who have trouble verbalising
- **Floating thermometers** that prevent scalding in the bath
- **Wearable devices** with in-built GPS, which can be used to keep people safe when they are out and about
- **Bed sensors** that indicate when someone has left their bed, or sensors that alert someone that a person is having a seizure
- **Telecare safety sensors** that can alert carers or 24/7 call centres to risks such as smoke or front doors being opened at night
- **Easy-to-use mobile phones** with large, easy to press buttons, along with SOS buttons

Anna's story

Anna, a lady we support in Devon, loves to holiday in Cornwall. However staying away from home comes with its challenges, particularly as Anna suffers from epilepsy and sometimes needs reassurance that staff are on hand.

That's where the personalised technology team came in. After hearing the concerns Anna's support workers had, they put together a personalised kit that would allow her independence and security outside of her usual living environment.

The holiday kit included a staff pager, a door sensor and a bed occupancy sensor, which were programmed to alert staff if Anna opened the bedroom door, or got up for an extended period of time in the night. Anna also took her epilepsy sensor with her, which detects repetitive movement and raises an alert if she has a seizure. Knowing that they would be woken as soon as Anna needed them is a huge reassurance for the support staff.

The holiday kit was a great success, and allowed Anna to relax and enjoy her Cornish break, without having to worry about being away from the technology and support she's used to at home.



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