Accessibility Features on Chromebook

Chromebooks include accessibility right out of the box, unlocking learning experiences for students with diverse needs, abilities and learning styles. Built-in settings and easy-to-use apps and extensions help customize the learning experience to include and engage every student.¹

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¹ The guidance in this user guide is taken from Google’s Chromebook accessibility web site.
Enabling Accessibility features

- Open the status tray: alt+shift+s
- In **Settings**, click on **Advanced** and enable **Accessibility** options in system menu

![System menu with Accessibility icon]

- Click on the system menu at any time

![Accessibility settings]

- Enable or disable Accessibility features as needed
Handwriting recognition

- Enable on-screen keyboard in Accessibility menu – it appears in the status tray

- The keyboard or handwriting toolbar can either be full screen...

- ...or sit in the bottom right hand corner. As you write it suggests possible words – works well with touchscreen and stylus

Text to speech

Select-to-speak

- Enable in Accessibility menu for synthesized speech on an as-needed basis

- When enabled, either click or tap the Select-to-speak icon in the system menu or hold down the ‘search button’. Then, click or drag a box around items on the screen to listen to them spoken aloud.

- See word-by-word highlighting as it reads. Change the highlight colour in Select-to-speak settings.
ChromeVox Screen Reader

- Reads everything on the screen – also enabled through the status tray and Accessibility
- This can be turned on via keyboard shortcut: ctrl+alt+z

- Watch ChromeVox instructions on YouTube.

Dyslexia Support

High contrast mode

- Viewing a page with inverted colour can make it easier for some to read text
- High contrast can be turned on via keyboard shortcut: ctrl+Magnifying glass+h

Dyslexia Reader Chrome

- Alter default settings for a page
- Easy to enable or disable
- Needs some understanding of Hex Codes in order to make alterations
Dyslexia and colour support

Beeline Reader

Adjusts colours and tones of pages to make it easier to read, find Beeline Reader here to add it to Chrome.

Colour Enhancer

Adjusts tone of pages to help with reading

Open-dyslexic

Switches text to easy-to-read dyslexia font: Open Dyslexic website.
Additional Accessibility Settings

**Large mouse cursor:**
makes the cursor larger and easier to see

**Mono audio:**
play the same audio from both speakers so someone with limited hearing doesn’t miss context in stereo sound

**Highlight mouse cursor:**
put a coloured ring around the mouse cursor to make it easier to spot

**Automatic clicks:**
makes it possible for users with motor challenges to hover over an item and have the Chromebook click, without putting any pressure on the touchpad

**Sticky keys:**
causes keys to remain ‘held down’ by a single tap until another key is pressed; e.g. shift or ctrl

Increase/Decrease size
To increase browser content: ctrl+plus button
To decrease browser content: ctrl+minus button
To reset: ctrl+shift+plus button

Dictation
Chromebook dictation
Enable from settings to dictate into your Chromebook
Start dictation: magnifying glass+d
Or simply tab/click the mic icon on the screen
This works anywhere that you would normally be able to type; e.g. browserbar, Google Slides, YouTube Search
Claro Cloud

Another option for a dictation function, is Clarosoftware.com Simply sign in with your University of Aberdeen username and password. This can be used through any operating system that has access to the internet.

- Or if you have the Claro Chrome extension installed in your browser you can sign into your own Claro Cloud account to access the other applications available. Please see our guide Claro Extension or contact atech@abdn.ac.uk for more information.

- This option will take you to ClaroRead Anywhere which has a Dictation feature

Accessibility support at the University of Aberdeen

For more information or support using any of the software mentioned in this guide, please contact atech@abdn.ac.uk