



## tts Kitt Cross-Curricular Companion Robot User Guide

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**tts Kitt Cross-Curricular Companion Robot**



## Introduction

Kit, the companion robot, has been specially designed with a range of functions and features that will support all learners, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

As the content on each Kit can be curated by the teacher or individual child, Kit is the perfect way to scaffold learning with one universal resource. Children can interact and work with Kitt to create their own videos, photos or audio files that will support them through the learning process, help them to build effective learning skills or allow them to capture and record their learning. In addition, adults have the opportunity to upload files onto Kit that children can access independently to differentiate and support learning and promote wellbeing.

In this guide, we explore the features that make Kit inclusive and accessible and the different ways that Kitt can be used to support learners with SEND.



All of the functions, features and possibilities make Kit the perfect inclusive learning companion!



### **Kit's Functions and Features**

Inclusivity lies at the heart of Kit's design. With many different functions and features that can be tailored and personalized, such as vibration and voice prompts, Kit becomes an accessible learning companion for children across a spectrum of needs.

### **Photographs, Audio and Videos**

Children can use Kit to take photographs or record videos and audio. They can capture their learning, record reminders and prompts or share their thoughts. As these are stored on Kitt, children can revisit and review them independently and share their recordings to showcase their learning. By plugging Kit into a computer, adults can easily upload files that can also be listened to or viewed on Kit. These could be supportive learning resources, such as reminders, audiobooks, explanations, modelled examples, wellbeing prompts or a learning stimulus. Individual resources can be chosen and specifically shared to scaffold and differentiate an individual child's learning.

### **Voice Prompts with Double Touch**

Within Kit's menu there is the option to turn voice prompts on or off. When voice prompts are on, Kit will read the name of the button when it is touched and read the names of the menu options as you scroll through. This will also activate a double touch function which will allow children to hear their selection with one press and select with the next.

### **Vibration**

From the menu, Kit's vibration feature can be turned on or off. When it is turned on, Kit will vibrate to offer sensory feedback when stroked, lifted up or when buttons are touched.

### **Screen Brightness**

Kit's screen can be set at three different levels of brightness.

### **Timer**

Kit's timer can be easily set within the menu allowing children to monitor and plan their own learning time.



### Alarm Clock

Children can set their own alarms for key routines during the day to help build independence.



### Volume

Kit's volume can be easily changed, depending on the sensory preference of the child or the noise level of the learning environment.



### Companionship Features

Kit also has a number of companionship features that help children to build a relationship with Kit. Educational

research shows that children's engagement levels are higher when working with a humanoid robot rather than on a screen. These companionship features include:

- **Kit Waking Up and Getting Sleepy**

When switched on, Kit will greet children by saying "I'm just waking up. Let's go." Kit will let children know when it is time for a battery charge by saying "I'm getting a little bit sleepy". Kit's tummy will also turn blue.

- **Light**

Kit will respond when the light gets brighter by putting on a pair of sunglasses. This feature can be adjusted in the menu.

- **Dressing Kit**

There are little magnets inside that allow Kitt to be dressed so that children can 'look after' their robot, for example a coat to go home or pajamas for bedtime.

- **Blended Learning**

Kit can safely travel home with your learners to support learning both inside and outside of school. All of Kit's recordings can be accessed, watched, listened to and deleted on Kitt, and as a non-connected device, parents can be reassured that no information is being shared with an inaccessible location.

- **Kit's Eyes**

Kit's eyes will move and change to show engagement when listening to a child. Kit has lots of different eye animations to observe, for example when stroked.

- **Stroked, Picked Up and Cuddled**

Kit responds to being stroked, picked up and cuddled by changing color and through different eye animations.

- **Play Mode**

Selecting the play mode will disable the touch buttons so that children can freely enjoy playing with and dressing up Kit.

- **Personalized Learning**

Every child can have their own personalized learning experience with Kit. If children have their own Kit, adults can collate and share personalized learning resources and activities that can both support children to make progress towards specific SEN outcomes and also help to differentiate and scaffold classroom learning.

Through having their own robot, children will build a rapport with their Kit and will have individual access to the resources and functions available, such as the timer.

## **Supporting SEND learners**

In this section, we explore different ways that Kit can support learning across the curriculum, help children to develop their learning skills, support wellbeing and facilitate learning beyond the classroom. As children and adults spend more time with Kit, they will find many more possibilities for ways to work with their personal learning companion.

### **Building Independence and Confidence**

Kit can play a valuable role in helping children to become confident, independent learners.

- By collecting together audio, images or videos, Kitt will become a hub of supportive learning resources for children to use independently.

- Prompts or step by step guides can be recorded onto Kitt and listened to as many times as needed to help children who find it difficult to remember task instructions.
- Providing learning prompts in this way can support children to build their independence, achieve success with learning activities and believe that they can!

### **Organizational Skills and Routines**

For many children it can be challenging to keep track of everything that they need to do or remember throughout the day. Routines and timetables can be a particular area of anxiety for some and having advanced warning can really help. As we try to build children's organizational skills, Kit can be used to help children plan and review their day.

- Children can record a checklist of things they need to remember or a key routine such as getting ready for school. They can listen back to this for support rather than needing prompts from an adult.
- Kitts could also be used to record a daily timetable. Children can either review this throughout the day or use it at home to help prepare them in advance.
- Children can set an alarm using Kitts's alarm clock to remind them about an important event during the day, for example attending a meeting or remembering to go to a club.
- Kitts provides children with a fun, supportive companion that they can use as they are developing these key life skills!

### **Modelling and Practicing**

Children need many opportunities to repeat, revisit and apply new knowledge and skills in order to learn and remember. Kit can improve the quality and quantity of practice both in the classroom and at home.

- As the resources on Kit can be curated by the teacher, they can be tailored to specific areas for an individual child. Kit will become a personalized 'hub' of resources and activities that children can independently use to support their learning and increase opportunities for practice, such as images, rhymes, videos, explanations, or modelled examples. Children can review these as many times as they like and practice regularly to help them make progress towards their outcomes.
- Engaging in learning with a robot may offer the perfect motivation to encourage children to practice their learning more often.
- As Kit does not require internet connectivity or access to a device, it is really easy for children to take Kit home and continue practicing there.
- Kit is endlessly patient. Explanations, instructions and activities can be recorded and played back infinitely if required without needing additional support from an adult or peer

### **Recording Learning**

Some children really benefit from being able to record their work in different ways. As children can so easily record audio, video and take photographs using Kitt, they can truly take charge of capturing their learning.

- For children who find written recording challenging, Kit offers an alternative way of expressing themselves. Kit can be also be used to scaffold written recording, with children first capturing their thoughts orally and then listening back as they write.
- Children can review their prior learning recorded on Kit and use this as a starting point for next steps.

- Recordings and images can also be easily uploaded to a computer for the purposes of teacher assessment and feedback.
- Through recording their own learning, children will build their independence and be able to celebrate successes, helping to build self-esteem and confidence.

### **Attention and Concentration**

Kit and his different functions offer an engaging way to support children who find concentration and attention challenging in the classroom.

- Children can set Kit's timer to help them focus during tasks and be in control of managing their own learning time.
- Adults can also record task instructions to help children who find it difficult to remain focused on multi step tasks. Children can listen back to these as many times as they like to be guided through the task one step at a time.

### **Memory**

As Kit can record and store audio, video and images, children can use these captures to support and aid memory. We often need to see or hear something multiple times for us to remember.

- Children can use the audio record function to help them remember and rehearse things, such as tasks for the day, presentations or even practicing lines for a performance.
- Using Kit, children can revisit and review instructions, recordings of learning or explanations as many times as they need to retain the information.



### **Language and Communication**

A key aspect of supporting children's language and communication is to provide as many opportunities as possible for children to encounter language. Kit can help to increase the opportunities for children to listen, hear, explore and practice speech and language throughout the day.

- Making and listening to audio recordings will help children to use their spoken language, to broaden their vocabulary and develop their listening skills.
- Children can easily listen to and experience many different types of modelled language on Kit through audio



books, nursery rhymes, poems, etc. This will help to immerse children in rich language throughout their day.

### **Emotional and Wellbeing Support**

As well as supporting with academic areas of learning, Kitt can also become a child's wellbeing buddy.

- Children can use Kit to capture and record how they are feeling throughout the day. They can then share this with an adult as part of a social and emotional session if needed.
- Kit could become a hub of wellbeing resources and emotional regulation strategies for children to use. These could include breathing exercises, mindfulness resources, calming music, audio books to listen to or videos to watch.
- For individual children who benefit from a link to home throughout the school day, Kit could become a personal wellbeing resource. Children can upload pictures of family or record messages from adults at home that they can listen to or look at when needed.
- School staff can record messages onto Kit about positive events of the day or things they are proud of so that children can share these at home.
- Children can also play with and look after Kit as a relaxing, wellbeing activity including making different outfits or taking Kit on adventures.

Kit can be used to complement existing wellbeing strategies used in the classroom and help children to access and practice these.



### **Learning at Home**

As Kit does not require internet connectivity or access to a device, children can continue their learning by simply taking Kit home with them.

- Instructions, resources and activities for home learning can be recorded and stored on Kitt. This can help motivate children and allows them to learn at home independently without requiring a lot of additional adult support.
- Children can use the recordings that they make at school to help them complete activities at home. This may also help adults to understand the best way to support their child. For example, children could record themselves explaining a new math's method during the lesson and then watch this with an adult at home.
- Kit can also be used to record homework activities, such as listening to a story and responding to questions,



recording reading or taking a picture of work completed on a whiteboard. When Kit is taken back to school, adults can easily download these files.


- Kit opens up and expands the possibilities of learning at home by bridging the gap between school and home so that learning can continue beyond the school day.



### Pupil Voice

Capturing and listening to the thoughts and feelings of children with SEND is so important when planning for their provision. It can sometimes be hard for children to express themselves and providing technology can help. Children may find it easier to talk to and record their thoughts onto Kit so that they can share these, for example at SEND review meetings.

### Documents / Resources

	<p><a href="#">tts Kitt Cross-Curricular Companion Robot</a> [pdf] User Guide</p> <p>Kitt, Cross-Curricular Companion Robot, Kitt Cross-Curricular Companion Robot</p>
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