Taking Care of Assistive Technology in the Home

The following are some ‘top tips’ when using Assistive Technology in the home:

1. Give your child a specific place at home for keeping the assistive devices. A shelf or drawer in the bedroom or in the kitchen might be specifically for storing the equipment.

2. Always use the equipment on a flat, clean surface.

3. Teach your child how to care for the equipment. If the equipment needs to be charged each night, supervise your child re-charging it.

4. Keep liquids and food away from the equipment.

5. Keep the antivirus software up to date on any laptops.

6. Do not allow family pets anywhere near the equipment.

7. Always have clean hands when using your equipment.

8. Protect the display monitor on all equipment.

9. Hold and lift the equipment by its base, not by the screen, particularly laptops.

10. Be mindful of power cords and cables. Ensure they are securely plugged in and that no person in the home is at risk of tripping over a cable. Also, if your chair is on wheels, please ensure that the chair does not roll over any cable.

11. Ensure that you plug other devices into their proper slots e.g. printer.

12. Do not leave equipment in a car.

13. Do not place any heavy materials, such as books, on top of the assistive technology.

14. Do not use the equipment on a bed (e.g. laptops) in case of over-heating, which would be a fire hazard.

It is also important to note that:

1. Parents must take responsibility for internet safety when the child is using assistive technology at home.

2. The student should solely use the technology. No other individuals in the home should have cause to use it.