

Developed with advice and guidance from
the DYSLEXIA RESEARCH TRUST

Neurodiverse Typing Software

A Skill for Life

- KAZ has been successfully servicing the DSA sector for 20+ years.
- 3 years ago we decided to completely revamp and update our typing software into the latest html technology.
- Whilst doing so, we decided to address an issue our special needs teachers had been battling with for many years - that of a small percentage of their students struggling with visual disturbances whilst using our course.
- We decided to go straight to the experts and so contacted Dr. Sue Fowler and her team at the Dyslexia Research Trust - who have been researching visual disturbances for the past 15 years.
- With their advise and guidance we spent the following 2 years developing our Neurodiverse edition. Using our same proven accelerated learning teaching method, it teaches typing skills whilst minimising visual disturbances by means of our new unique ©preference screen.

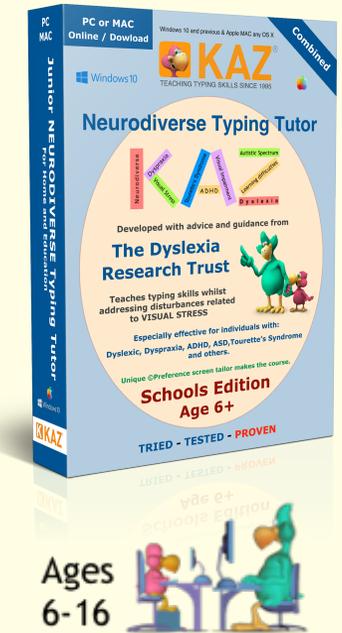
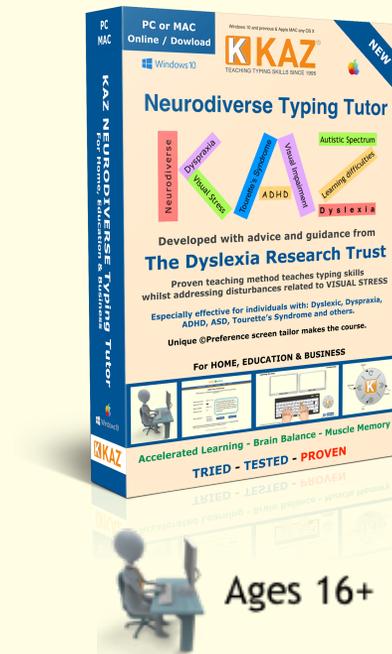
KAZ's Neurodiverse Typing Software

Developed with advise and guidance from Dr. Sue Fowler and her team at the Dyslexia Research Trust.

Teaches typing skills whilst addressing visual disturbances

Suitable for:

- **Dyslexia**
- **Dyspraxia**
- **ADHD**
- **ASD**
- **Tourette's Syndrome**
- **Visual Disturbances**

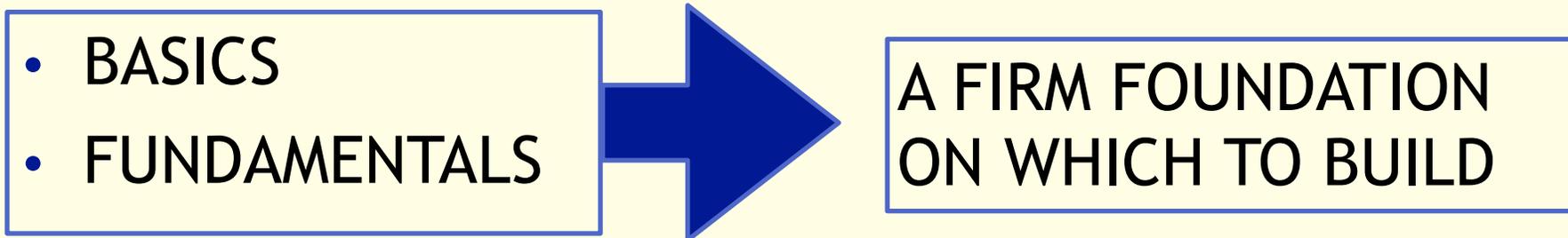


(Available in two editions)

There is so much innovative assistive technology available today but the most basic and fundamental skill of touch typing is very much overlooked...

YOU assess individuals every day so...

YOU actually know best how to help them.



Do we still need to teach typing skills with speech recognition software available?

The answer is: **YES**

- Although speech recognition software is a wonderful tool, it has its drawbacks, is not suitable for all and does not equip students with a **'life skill'**.
- In today's world of computers, in order to put neurodivergent students on a more even standing with their neurotypical peers and help them with employment and life, typing is a **fundamental but essential 'Life Skill'**.
- Subject to access arrangements, it's essential for use in exams - accepted universally. Access arrangements for speech recognition software is dependent on university.

If student's can type efficiently, with all their fingers, without even thinking about it - the skill gets passed into their sub-conscious, leaving their conscious minds free to:

- 1. Concentrate on the question at hand.**
- 2. Concentrate on creative writing.**
- 3. Type quickly enough to actually finish their paper.**

Touch Typing or Speech to Text

Software recommended is determined by the diversity and severity of student challenges.

Several different softwares may address these challenges in different ways...

But if it is possible to address these challenges whilst equipping students with a 'skill for life' at the same time - is this not preferable?

KAZ's Neurodiverse edition may not be suitable for all but can be an invaluable tool when used in conjunction with other software.

In today's world, touch typing equips students with a portable 'life skill' they can use to gain employment and use in everyday life.

City & Guilds Assured - Digital Certificate and Badge validates their skill and achievement and can be showcased on their social media profiles, CVs and job application forms.

Speech to Text is an excellent tool but not suitable for all:

- Complex setting up procedures.
- Needs a quiet environment.
- User needs to speak clearly with correct pace and tone.
- Problems with accents and speech recognition.
- Cannot understand the context of language or differentiate between homonyms (there or their).
- Problems with slang, technical words, name and acronyms.
- Extra time needed for reviewing, editing and correcting errors.
- Frequent use may cause physical discomfort and vocal problems.
- Inhibits the thought process whilst dictating.
- Expensive.
- When in the working environment, it is reliant on employers purchasing the software and allocating a suitable workspace, which is not always feasible.
- Excellent tech but **NOT** a 'life skill'.

Unique @Preference Screen

Tailor makes the course to each individual

KAZ Online Home User Guides My Results Admin Log Out

Select Your Preferences

Please select your preferences until you can read the text in the box below comfortably.

Select Filter Colour

Select Font Colour

Select Typeface

Select Font Size

Select Keyboard



Preferences will be automatically saved and applied to the course. To amend settings, 'EXIT' to the main menu and click 'Admin' in the blue banner.

'No two individuals are the same. Each of us are unique and have different needs. It is therefore impossible to create one system which is suitable for all.'

Dr. Sue Fowler

With this in mind and with their advise and guidance, we developed our unique Preference Screen offering a selection of options, tailor making the course to each individual.

The screen is set to a broad base default setting. If the user cannot read the sample text comfortably, they should change their preferences until they can.

Preferences include:

- A choice of 8 coloured filters, including 2 specific DRT research based filters
- Yellow for minimising blurring
- Blue for steadying letter movement. (The others 6 simply minimise white screen glare.)
- A choice of font colour - for contrast from background screen colour.
- A choice of dyslexic friendly typefaces (including two licensed fonts) - for ease of reading.
- A choice of font size - to minimise fusing and crowding of letters.
- A choice of keyboard - for optimum visibility comfort - black on white keys, white on black keys or the chosen filter colour on black keys.

Once the user has selected their preferences and can read the sample text comfortably, all they have to do is click '**BEGIN COURSE**' and their preferences are saved and applied throughout the course.

The screenshot shows a web interface for selecting preferences. At the top, a blue navigation bar contains links: 'KAZ Course', 'User Guides', 'My Results', 'Change Preferences', and 'License'. The main content area has a yellow background and is titled 'Select Your Preferences'. Below the title, it says 'Please select your preferences until you can read the text in the box below comfortably.' There are five selection options: 'Select Filter Colour' (dropdown menu), 'Select Font Colour' (text input), 'Select Typeface' (dropdown menu), 'Select Font Size' (text input), and 'Select Keyboard' (dropdown menu). A sample text box on the right contains the sentence: 'The giant speckled frog leapt right across the pond to the other side. His feet did not touch a single lilly pad, nor did they skim the water. He wasn't in a rush. He wasn't late. He was just showing off!' Below the text box are two buttons: 'DEFAULT SETTINGS' and 'BEGIN COURSE'. At the bottom, a note states: 'Preferences will be automatically saved and applied to the course. To amend settings, 'EXIT' to the main menu and click 'Admin' in the blue banner.'

Two callout boxes are present:

- A box on the left lists filter options: Blue (stabilises letter movement), Yellow (minimises blurring), Grey, Pink, Green, Purple, **Default** (checked), and No Filter.
- A box on the bottom left lists font options: Arial, Comic Sans, Century Gothic, **Verdana** (checked), Trebuchet, Calibri, Lexie Readable, and Open-Dyslexic.

If for any reason they need to change their preferences during the program - all they need to do is click '**Change Preferences**' in the top blue bar and change as required.

Further Assistive Options

Sound / Text Only / AD



Select Your KAZ Version

<p>KAZ Course User Guides Change Preferences License</p>	
<p>KAZ with Sound </p>	<p>This is our recommended choice. You can change to the 'Text version' at anytime during the course by simply clicking on the 'Sound Off' button.</p>
<p>KAZ Text Version  </p>	<p>Choose this version if you are working in a quiet environment or if you have hearing difficulties.</p>
<p>Audio Description  </p>	<p>KAZ with keystroke sound is an accessible version for visually impaired users - 'speaking' the A-Z keys as they are depressed within the exercises.</p>



Ages 16+

How does the Course Work?

The multi-sensory course is divided into 5 modules and designed to be used independently, without supervision and is presented in a simple and light-hearted manner.

Just start and the top and work through the modules in order.

The screenshot displays the KAZ Online Home interface. At the top, a navigation bar includes links for "KAZ Online Home", "User Guides", "My Results", "Admin", and "Log Out". Below this, five modules are listed in a vertical stack, each with a title and a brief description:

- Flying Start**: How to use the course
- The Basics**: Touch type the A-Z keys!
- Just Do It**: Exercise and apply your new touch typing skills
- And The Rest**: Learn the shift, numbers, and punctuation keys
- SpeedBuilder**: Daily practise to build speed and accuracy

On the left side, a grey starburst graphic contains the text "Learn to touch type". A blue speech bubble pointing to the "The Basics" module contains the text "You were here". On the right side, there are two buttons: "SOUND OFF" and "EXIT".

Flying Start: Introduction to the course

KAZ Online Home User Guides My Results Admin Log Out

Flying Start

How KAZ Works
The secrets of KAZ

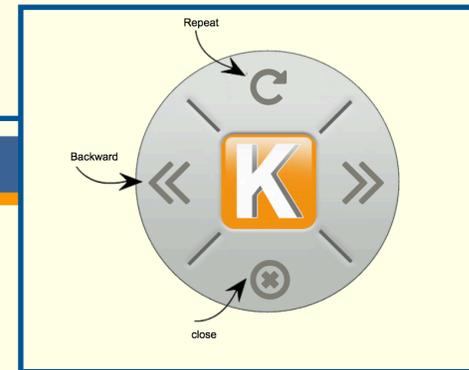
Using KAZ
How to use the course

Bare Essentials
Your posture at the keyboard

From the options shown, select the top one, [How KAZ Works](#) and when you return to this menu, select the following options in sequence.

SOUND OFF

EXIT



Correct **POSTURE** when sitting at a computer

Before you start typing, it is important that you are sitting comfortable and correctly. Good posture prevents strain!

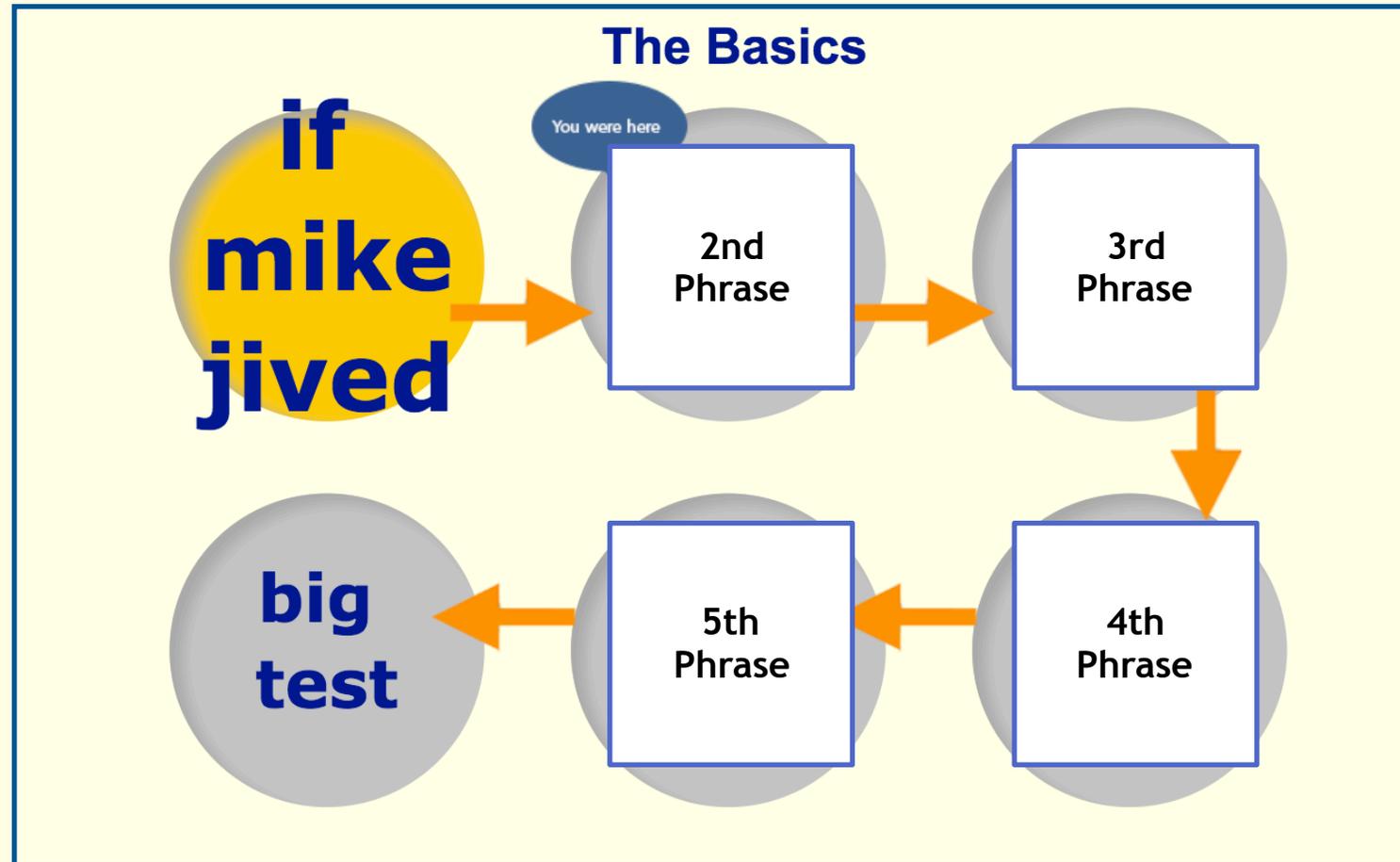
- Eyes should be in line with the top of the screen.
- Sit up straight and centre your body in front of the G and H keys.
- Fingers should be slightly curved and not stuck out straight.
- Knees should be square as this stabilises the body.
- If you type for too long and begin to feel tired, take a break.
- Your chair should be adjusted so that your feet rest comfortably on the floor. If your feet don't reach the floor - use a foot stool.
- Always try to keep your wrists in line with your hands - this will allow you to reach the keys better.
- Your forearms should be parallel with the floor and your elbows should rest lightly against your waist, as this keeps your arms stable and your wrists at the right angle.
- Lean forward slightly, relax your shoulders and make sure your lower back is supported.

Repetitive Strain Injury (RSI) is caused by the repetitive action/overuse of the upper limbs / body. The signs and symptoms of RSI are pain, tenderness, stiffness, tingling or numbness, swelling or cramp in the fingers, hands wrists, arms, shoulder and neck. To prevent RSI when using a computer, you must ensure correct posture, take regular breaks and carry out passive exercises.

Teaches the importance of Posture and RSI (Repetitive Strain Injury).

The Basics

Teaches the a-z keys with our 5 scientifically structured phrases



Ages 16+

Our 'Accelerated Learning' teaching method incorporates 'Brain Balance' and 'Muscle Memory'

- Using an accelerated teaching method, comprising both brain balance and muscle memory, the method trains the fingers of both hands to work symmetrically and simultaneously - a direct result of both hemispheres of the brain working at the same time - 'brain balance'.
- Each phrase teaches certain letters and uses certain fingers. The first phrase teaches the first two fingers on each hand, the second brings in another, the third another and so on... and by the time the student reaches the last phrase they are typing with all their fingers and are able to touch type all 26 letters of the alphabet **and the beauty is that they don't even realise they're doing so!**
- Each phrase/section typically takes 15-20 minutes.
- Additionally, a visual of the keyboard always remains on the screen, naturally encouraging the student to always look up at the screen, and not down at their fingers.

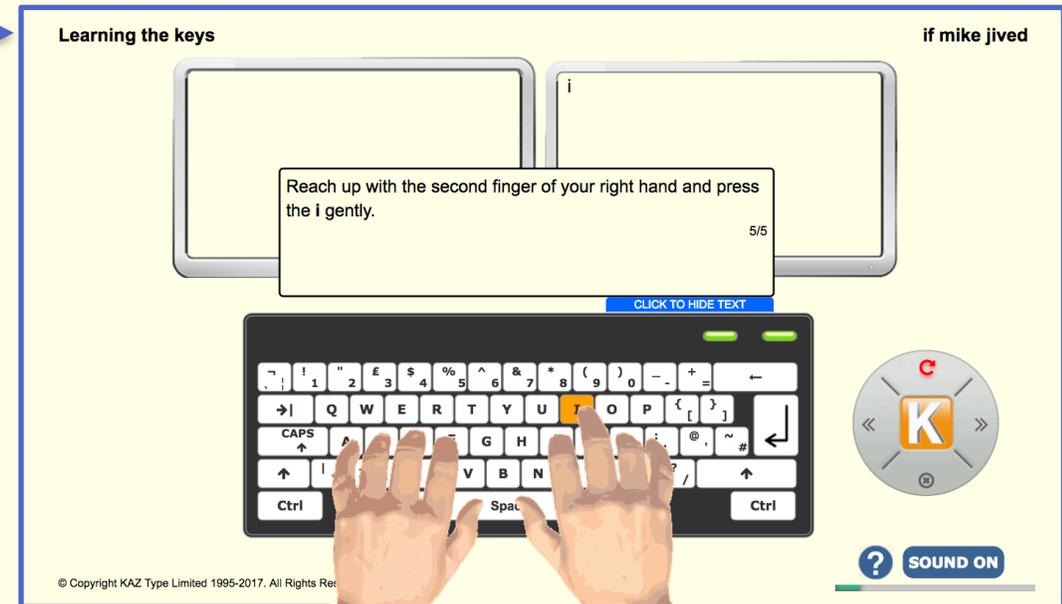
if mike jived

2nd Phrase

3rd Phrase

4th Phrase

5th Phrase



Ages 16+

Just Do It

- Extra practise with only 'real word' vocabulary reinforces the a-z keys - engraining spelling to 'muscle memory'.
- Repetition of typing words helps with spelling.
- Spellings become a series of patterns and finger movements on the keyboard.

KAZ Online Home User Guides My Results Admin Log Out

Flying Start
How to use the course

You were here

The Basics
Touch type the A-Z keys!

Learn to touch type

Just Do It
Exercise and apply your new touch typing skills

And The Rest
Learn the shift, numbers, and punctuation keys

SpeedBuilder
Daily practise to build speed and accuracy

SOUND OFF

EXIT

Just Do It

creed |

creed died fend
crime dive feud
deem drink fever
deer diced find
dice feed five
did fence freed

TYPING AREA DEMO AREA

CLICK TO USE KEYGUIDE

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? SOUND OFF

And The Rest

Teaches the Punctuation and Number keys.

KAZ Online Home User Guides My Results Admin Log Out

Flying Start
How to use the course

The Basics
Touch type the A-Z keys!

Just Do It
Exercise and apply your new touch typing skills

And The Rest
Learn the shift, numbers, and punctuation keys

SpeedBuilder
Daily practise to build speed and accuracy

SOUND OFF

EXIT

And The Rest **Punctuation**

The lady's handbag was

The lady's handbag was brown.
I will 'phone on Tuesday.
How do you do?
He lives in WINCHESTER

TYPING AREA DEMO AREA

Click on the DOWN arrow of the scrollbar to reveal more sentences.

?

SOUND OFF

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SpeedBuilder Increases speed and accuracy

Accuracy
0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100

Words per minute
0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100

20
Phrases left

RESET

KAZ SpeedBuilder

some people are very cautious before accepting strangers in their home

Your Text

KAZ



KAZ Course User Guides Change Preferences License

TAKE ANOTHER TEST

82 WPM	100	12/10/2017
66 WPM	100	12/10/2017
49 WPM	81	12/10/2017
78 WPM	95	12/10/2017
95 WPM	93	12/10/2017

Date	Typing Speed	Accuracy
13/10/2017	82	100
12/10/2017	66	100
12/10/2017	49	81
12/10/2017	78	95
12/10/2017	95	93
12/10/2017	95	93

All results are recorded and can be viewed by clicking on the **'My Results'** tab in the blue bar.

How does the KAZ program and learning to touch type meet the Challenges and Needs of Neurodivergent students?

PDF - available to download from our website.



Neurodiverse Differences – Student Challenges/Benefits

KAZ's Neurodiverse typing tutor was developed with advice and guidance from Dr. Sue Fowler and her team at the Dyslexia Research Trust (Reading Clinic and Oxford University). It teaches typing skills whilst minimising disturbances related to visual stress, by means of a unique preference screen, tailor making the course to each individual for maximum visibility comfort. It is suitable for individuals with one or a combination of the following neurological differences: **Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, ADHD, ASD, Tourette's, amongst others.**

The program uses a unique and proven 'accelerated learning' teaching method. Incorporating both 'muscle memory' and 'brain balance', the multi-sensory approach engages the major senses of sight, sound and touch simultaneously, radically enhancing memory retention and recall - which is why it is so effective.

The combination of KAZ's preference screen and its proven accelerated learning teaching method delivers a student tailored, simple but dynamic course.

The disturbances experienced by neurodivergent individuals can make writing and producing a piece of work extremely challenging. The level of concentration and effort involved can be laborious, exhausting, frustrating - causing anxiety and low self-esteem and can affect the overall structure and quality of a piece of work, or at its extreme, deter the individual from wanting to write at all.

Efficient typing skills and using a computer can help eliminate many of these challenges and frustrations and early acquisition familiarises users with the keyboard, allowing them to fully appreciate the tools available to them through touch typing and using a computer.

Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, ADHD, ASD, Tourette's, amongst others.

Red – Neurodiverse Difference.

Black – Challenges experienced by neurodivergent students.

Blue – Benefits of KAZ's Neurodiverse Typing Tutor and learning to touch type.

Dyslexia

Dyslexia is a common language processing disorder, which hinders the learning of literacy skills such as reading, writing and spelling.

Students with dyslexia may experience problems with:



- **Visual Disturbances (Dyslexia)**

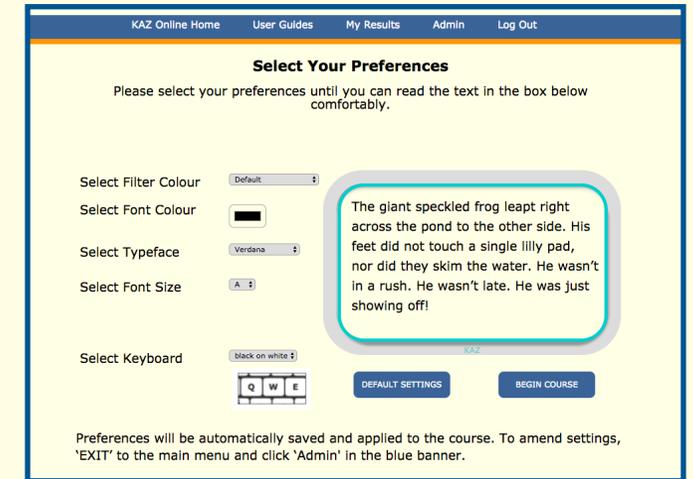
- Preference Screen - Tailor makes the course.

- **Cognitive Limitations (Dyslexia, ADHD, ASD)**

- Multi-sensory approach helps information to be remembered and retained.

- **Difficulties with Spelling (Dyslexia, ADHD, ASD)**

- 'Muscle Memory' - spellings and vocabulary are engrained to memory.
- Spellings become a series of finger movements and patterns on a keyboard.
- With repetition - words are recognised by sight.



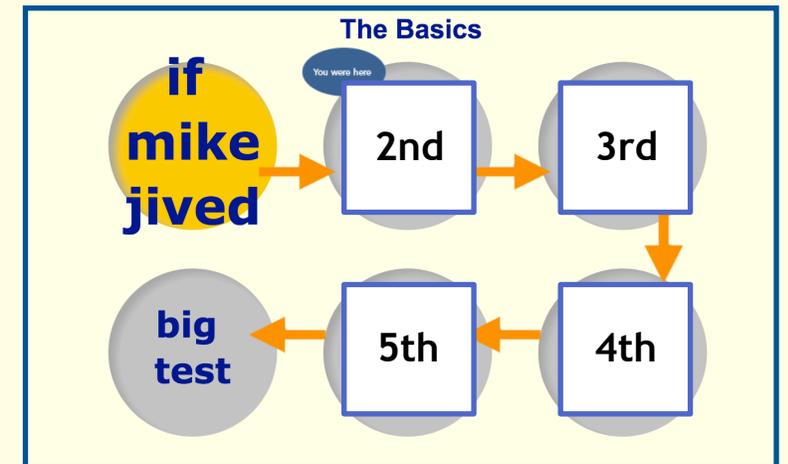
- **Poor Working Memory (Dyslexia, ADHD)**
 - Short modules hold concentration.
 - Work at own pace.
 - Students can work in a non-linear fashion.



- **Poor and Messy Handwriting (Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, ADHD, Tourette's)**
- **Perfectionism (ASD)** - due to obsessive compulsive behaviours.
- **Involuntary Tics (Tourette's)**
 - Eliminates the need for neat handwriting.
 - Develops fine motor skills and hand/eye co-ordination.
 - Eliminates the need for letter formation, gripping and manipulating a pen/pencil

- **Slow Work Rate (Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, ADHD, Tourette's)**
 - Quick and accurate typing - reduces time spent - increases productivity.
 - Think - type.
- **Difficulty with Speech / Non-Verbal Communication (Dyspraxia, ASD)**
 - Typing - Offers alternative method of communication.

- **Poor Attention Skills (ADHD, ASD)**
 - Short modules helps focus.
 - Regular short sessions helps concentration.

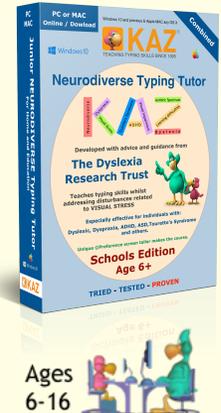
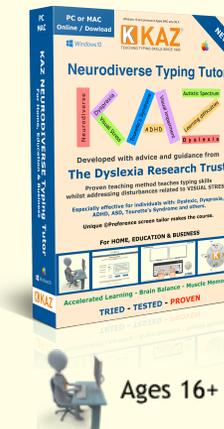


- **Poor Social Interaction (ASD)**

- Enables communication without social interaction.

- **Frustration (ASD)** - Abled ASD students minds work faster than their hands can write.

- Enables typing at speed - to keep up with their thinking.
- Think - type.



(Available in two editions)

You all:

- Assess
- Guide/Nurture
- Make a difference to the lives of thousands of young adults

This fundamental 'life skill' will help their future careers, lives and well-being.

Teach them to type.

If you equip a student with a laptop, ensure they can use it efficiently, so it makes a difference.

(Please Note: It is not necessary to be proficient in touch typing to demonstrate the course.)

Key Points

- Only typing tutor developed with the Dyslexia Research Trust.
- Optional City & Guilds Assured edition, with a digital credential and certificate on successful completion.
- First typing tutor to have been a Bett finalist and have a white paper written by the Open University.
- ©Preference Screen tailor makes the course to each individual.
- Accelerated learning teaching method incorporating both 'brain balance' and 'muscle memory'. It is tried, tested and proven to be especially effective with neurodivergent students.
- Program teaches the importance of Posture and RSI (Repetitive Strain Injury).
- Includes 'speaking keys' for the visually impaired and a 'text only' version for the hearing impaired.
- Because you pay - guaranteed secure site, no pop ups, no advertising, no distractions, no harvesting of data and with recognised Accreditation.
- Our course contains only real word vocabulary - No gaming - Fully mobile friendly.
- **Most importantly**, our Neurodiverse edition was developed due to requests from Special Needs Teachers, to specifically meet the needs of neurodivergent students.

A simple but effective course developed through trials and research.