
INTRODUCING A LIGHTWRITER

**Step by Step Tutorials
for Therapists and Clients**

Introduction

by Catherine Harris MRCSLT

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Introduction

Lightwriters are small portable text-to-speech communication aids.

They **are** extremely easy to use at their most **basic** level of function i.e. **TURN ON AND TYPE**

However, as a specialist therapist working with AAC, I have recognised that however simple the manuals are meant to be, they may represent a real challenge to both therapists and clients.

The Core tutorials in this pack were developed to be used with clients as a step-by-step introduction to the Lightwriter. Less frequently used functions are included in the Advanced section. The complete pack can be used for equipping therapists and others so that they can feel more confident and effective in the support role.

The record sheet can be updated as the functions are mastered.

The pack is not intended to replace the manual and should not be presented to the client without the appropriate support, ideally over a minimum of 3 sessions.

Please do not photocopy the sheets as they are copyright and they are presented in colour as part of the whole package.

There has been positive feedback from both therapists and clients who have helped in piloting this pack and it is hoped that it will be of practical benefit to all those who are involved in using a Lightwriter.



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Acknowledgements

With grateful thanks to my colleagues in Portsmouth and especially to Paula Pyke for her administrative support. Also appreciation for my clients and their carers who have been so enthusiastic and encouraging about this resource.

Dedication

In memory of June Henderson, a brave and intelligent woman, who quickly mastered the Lightwriter so that she could continue to enquire about the wellbeing of others. She died in December 2001 from M.N.D. and is remembered by those who knew her with respect and love.

Feedback

I would be pleased to hear any feedback on this pack or suggestions for additions or improvement. Please contact me at: CAHarris78551000@aol.com

Overview

This Training Package is divided into 2 sections:

1 **User Training Pack**

This section is designed for working with Lightwriter users and contains 2 sections:

a) **Direct Selection**

User Guides for people accessing the Lightwriter with the keyboard.

b) **Scanning**

User Guides for people accessing the Lightwriter with one or two switches.

2 **Information for Therapists and Carers**

This section is aimed at facilitators and provides information on how to set up most of the Lightwriter's commonly-used features.

Instructions for Use

- 1 Open **User Training Pack.pdf** or **Information for Therapists and Carers.pdf** as appropriate.
 - 2 Preview the contents of the training pack on your computer and print out relevant pages for use with the client or your own reference. These documents are designed to be printed in colour for full benefit.
 - 3 It is suggested that if possible the pages are laminated for ease of handling and durability for use with clients. Some topics print out over 2 pages, and these may be laminated back-to-back.
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