Assistive Tech for Education

This playbook outlines the steps for identifying, selecting, and implementing assistive technologies that aid special needs education, ensuring that students with disabilities have the necessary tools to facilitate their learning process.

Step 1: **Assessment**

Evaluate the individual needs of students with disabilities to determine which types of assistive technology would be most beneficial for their educational goals.

Step 2: **Research**

Investigate the available assistive technologies that align with the needs identified in the assessment. Consider devices, software, and equipment.

Step 3: **Selection**

Choose appropriate assistive technologies based on effectiveness, compatibility with existing classroom tools, and ease of use for students.

Step 4: **Funding**

Identify and secure funding sources for the purchase of assistive technologies, which could include school budgets, grants, or community donations.

Step 5: **Acquisition**

Procure the selected assistive technologies, ensuring that the products and vendors meet quality standards and service support is available.

Step 6: **Training**

Develop and implement training programs for teachers, aides, and other staff members who will be directly involved with the assistive technologies in the classroom.

Step 7: **Integration**

Implement the assistive technologies into the classroom environment, integrating them with current instructional practices and curricula.

Step 8: **Monitoring**

Regularly review the effectiveness of the assistive technologies in enhancing educational outcomes for students, and make adjustments as needed.

Step 9: **Documentation**

Keep detailed records of the technologies in use, training provided, and observed impacts on student performance for reference and accountability.

General Notes

Compliance

Ensure that all assistive technologies comply with legal standards such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Accessibility

Continuously advocate for and work towards improving accessibility in every aspect of the educational environment, not solely through technological means.