Recommendation Guide

Lightkey Pro-AT is built for individuals with disabilities; making typing faster, smoother, and less frustrating. Its intelligent predictive typing anticipates your next words and phrases in real-time, reducing keystrokes and easing the writing process.

Designed to support neurodiverse users and those with motor challenges, Lightkey also offers specialised corrections tailored for professional fields like law and *medicine (medical edition).

By adapting to an individual's unique writing style, Lightkey helps a student to focus on their thoughts, rather than on the mechanics of typing.

In light of Student Loans Company's (SLC's) Student Support Information Note (SSIN) to remove non-specialist spelling and grammar software from DSA funding on the grounds that there are now free to access versions available, the guidance document indicates that this type of software will still be considered on a case by case basis.

"Any recommendations for non-specialist spelling and grammar software to be funded in exceptional circumstances will be reviewed by SLC on a case-by-case basis where there is a disability related need."
SSIN Update February 2025 - SSIN - Changes to spelling and grammar software funded through DSA

Some students will benefit from features of Lightkey that go far beyond what a standard spell checker (like in Microsoft Word or Google Docs) can offer, including real-time text prediction, the ability to learn from mistakes, context aware support, as well Lightkey's ability to work with other applications - not just in a word processor. Lightkey can also help with productivity, reduce anxiety and boost confidence around academic writing.

Also, as 'specialist' spell checking software is still permitted, some courses, listed below, could also be used to support a recommendation for **Lightkey Medical,** where subject areas and taught modules (listed in a student's university course overview) intersect with the medical and medical sciences fields:

Psychology	**Health Promotion**	**Social Care**	**Biomedical**
Pharmacy	**Physiotherapy**	**Health Sciences**	**Podiatry**
Radiography	**Dentistry**	**Health Care**	**Public Health**

Difficulties helped by Lightkey across disability types

Writing and Reviewing Academic work	
Dyslexia	Given the difficulties arising from dyslexia, **Lightkey** can offer several advantages over standard spelling and grammar tools in Microsoft Word or Google Docs or other word processors. Whilst the changes to SLC's funding guidance and the Student Support Information Note (SSIN) to remove non-specialist spelling and grammar software from DSA funding are acknowledged, the guidance document indicates that this type of software will still be considered on a case-by-case basis. Lightkey will address the following unique disability related needs arising directly from the diagnostic profile, offering a bespoke solution by exception: Predictive text will reduce errors in written notes, essays and assignments, improving writing flow. MS Word or Google Docs correct mistakes after they occur, which means that it's necessary to guess spelling and phrasing. Where spelling is diagnostically poor this offers little support. Lightkey will help to address this. Real-time and subject-specific corrections can also help reduce cognitive load. Predictive Text supports word finding and cognitive load. It's also important to note that Lightkey's "AI" functionality is grounded in the fact it learns from the individual, the software, however, is installed locally on the device. AI only learns from the user. Lightkey ensures context aware prediction using AI to suggest phrases based on the information entered by the user but drawing on the content that has been written previously by the user. Lightkey continuously learns from an individual's writing style, and frequently-used phrases and vocabulary. Therefore, over time it becomes more personalised and efficient. This is especially useful for students who consistently use technical or academic language in their field of study and is designed specifically for dyslexic thinking.

	Applications like MS Word or Google Docs tend to offer rule-based corrections, this can lead to contextual inappropriateness and bring additional problems with word usage and idioms, adding confusion for an individual with dyslexia with irrelevant suggestions. Lightkey considers the context of a sentence, offering suggestions that go beyond surface-level spelling or grammar. The use of Lightkey is therefore especially useful for students with dyslexia who struggle with word order, homophones, and less commonly used vocabulary. Lightkey offers inline corrections and improves with usage, tailoring predictions to an individual's writing style. Standard word processors don't adapt in the same way, making it harder to improve writing fluency over time. Lightkey ensures context aware prediction. Lightkey's interface is clean and focused, helping to work in a distraction-free mode. Lightkey offers dyslexia-friendly writing support with 60 + Specialist Subject Dictionaries including Law, Economics and Medicine *Lightkey Medical. Customisable colour themes also enhance readability. An optional read-aloud functionality for both predictions and corrections supports multi-sensory reinforcement. Lightkey can also integrate with text-to-speech technology, such as TextAid. Lightkey's fully offline operation is compliant with data protection.

Writing and Reviewing Academic work	
Dyspraxia	In light of Student Loans Company's (SLC's) Student Support Information Note (SSIN) to remove non-specialist spelling and grammar software from DSA funding on the grounds that there are now free to access versions available, the guidance document indicates that this type of software will still be considered on a case-by-case basis by exception. Dyspraxia brings challenges with writing due to difficulties with motor coordination, spatial awareness, memory, and organisation and therefore a more comprehensive solution is required to meet disability-related needs. **Lightkey** predicts full words and phrases after just a few keystrokes, meaning less physical typing is required. Standard word processors do not match the predictive typing features of Lightkey, requiring full manual input of each word. Given the nature of dyspraxia, where there are struggles with fine motor skills or typing fluency, Lightkey can offer significant advantages to address disability related difficulties by reducing fatigue and error rates. It's also important to note that Lightkey's "AI" functionality is grounded in the fact it learns from the individual, the software, however, is installed locally on the device. Lightkey ensures context aware prediction using AI to suggest phrases based on the information entered by the user and only draws on content that has been written previously by the user. Lightkey continuously learns from an individual's writing style, and frequently-used phrases and vocabulary. Therefore, over time it becomes more personalised and efficient. This is especially useful for students who consistently use technical or academic language in their field of study. With Lightkey, the need for precise keyboard movements is reduced, aided by intelligent word

	prediction. Lightkey auto-completes words in real time, helping avoid constant backspacing or mouse use to correct errors. Standard word processors highlight errors after the fact, which can lead to frustrating stops and edits mid-flow. The use of Lightkey therefore supports smoother writing for students who have difficulty maintaining momentum or switching between writing and correcting, where there are sequencing difficulties. Lightkey is recommended to support difficulties with word retrieval and sequencing by suggesting common phrases and aiding sentence structures, helping students to formulate ideas in writing in the correct order. Other free or standard word processing applications do not include this degree of support. As such, Lightkey truly meets disability related needs. The application's specialist correction minimises typing errors, aiding coordination challenges. Colour-coded themes add clarity and can reduce visual confusion where there are coordination difficulties. Keyboard shortcuts streamline writing processes. Lightkey offers a distraction-free writing space, ideal for students who become overwhelmed, and it can therefore improve focus and accessibility where sensory and attention regulation difficulties impair academic performance. Lightkey's fully offline operation is compliant with data protection. Optional read-aloud functionality for both predictions and corrections supports multi-sensory reinforcement. Lightkey can integrate with TTS tools such as TextAid.

Writing and Reviewing Academic work	
ADHD	Given the difficulties arising from ADHD, **Lightkey** can offer several advantages over standard spelling and grammar tools in Microsoft Word or Google Docs. Whilst the changes to SLC's funding guidance and the Student Support Information Note (SSIN) to remove non-specialist spelling and grammar software from DSA funding are acknowledged, the guidance document indicates that this type of software will still be considered on a case-by-case basis. Lightkey will address the following unique disability related needs arising directly from the difficulties associated with ADHD, offering a bespoke solution via the exceptional case process Lightkey's interface is clean and focused, helping to work in a distraction-free mode. Lightkey can assist where there is inconsistent spelling of the same word in a single piece of writing. This reduces the need to pause and correct spelling or grammar errors mid-sentence. With free and standard spelling and grammar checking, the use underlines and pop-ups can interrupt focus and derail attention. Maintaining attention is key for individuals with ADHD, and Lightkey helps to stay in the writing "zone". To address problems generating ideas and getting words onto the page, Lightkey can help sustain effort. Its suggestions act as writing prompts, helping to get started and maintain writing momentum. Lightkey reduces cognitive fatigue and supports better flow during writing tasks. As it predicts and completes words and phrases in real time, this reduces the mental effort required to address spelling, structure, or wording. With free spell-checking applications, unlike Lightkey, mistakes are only highlighted after they happen, offering no forward support. Standard word processors rely on manual corrections. Lightkey also learns and adapts to an individual's unique writing behaviour, supporting consistent writing

	habits over time and therefore provides proactive and personalised, bespoke support. This is especially useful for students who consistently use technical or academic language in their field of study. Its "AI" functionality is grounded in the fact it learns from the individual, the software, however, is installed locally on the device. Lightkey ensures context aware prediction using AI to suggest phrases based on the information entered by the user, drawing only on the content that has been written previously by the user. An optional read-aloud functionality for both predictions and corrections supports multi-sensory reinforcement. Lightkey can integrate with text-to-speech solutions, such as TextAid.

Writing and Reviewing Academic work	
Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC)	Given the difficulties arising from ASC, **Lightkey** can offer several advantages over standard spelling and grammar tools in Microsoft Word or Google Docs. Whilst the changes to SLC's funding guidance and the Student Support Information Note (SSIN) to remove non-specialist spelling and grammar software from DSA funding are acknowledged, the guidance document indicates that this type of software will still be considered on a case-by-case basis. Lightkey will address the following unique disability related needs arising directly from the difficulties associated with ASC offering a bespoke solution via the exceptional case process: As Lightkey proactively prevents spelling/grammar errors, unlike a standard/free word processor where errors are identified after typing (reactive), this can help to reduce any anxiety or frustration associated with errors in writing. Lightkey prevents many spelling and grammar errors before they happen, lowering the emotional impact of seeing constant red or blue underlines. Where there is heightened anxiety around making mistakes, Lightkey offers a calmer, more encouraging writing experience. Lightkey is also recommended to support personal expression with predictive phrase suggestions. As it suggests full phrases and multi-word predictions, this can aid coherence in writing. This is not available in free solutions. Therefore, over time Lightkey becomes more personalised and efficient. This is especially useful for students who consistently use technical or academic language in their field of study. Its "AI" functionality is grounded in the fact it learns from the individual, the software, however, is installed locally on the device. Lightkey ensures context aware prediction using AI to suggest phrases based on the information entered by the user, drawing only on the content that has been written previously by the user. Lightkey offers a scaffolded approach to

	academic writing, ideal for students on the autism spectrum who find it difficult to initiate or organise written language. Real-time word and phrase prediction aids language processing. Lightkey offers a distraction-free writing space, ideal for students who become overwhelmed, and it can therefore improve focus and accessibility where sensory regulation difficulties impair academic performance. Unlike free spelling tools, Lightkey's suggestions become more tailored over time, offering consistent phrasing and structure that can build writing confidence. The predictable behaviour offers support for those who thrive on routine and structure. Its "AI" functionality is grounded in the fact it learns from the individual, the software, however, is installed locally on the device. Lightkey ensures context aware prediction using AI to suggest phrases based on the information entered by the user but draws on the content that has been written previously by the user. Lightkey's fully offline operation is compliant with data protection. An optional read-aloud functionality for both predictions and corrections supports multi-sensory reinforcement. Lightkey can integrate with text-to-speech technology, such as TextAid.

Writing and Reviewing Academic work	
Mental Health	Given the disability-related needs, **Lightkey** can offer several advantages over standard spelling and grammar tools in Microsoft Word or Google Docs. Whilst the changes to SLC's funding guidance and the Student Support Information Note (SSIN) to remove non-specialist spelling and grammar software from DSA funding are acknowledged, the guidance document indicates that this type of software will still be considered on a case-by-case basis. Lightkey will address the following unique disability related needs arising directly from the diagnosis, offering a bespoke solution by exception: Where there are difficulties with motivation, anxiety, or reduced executive function, Lightkey offers a scaffolded approach to academic writing, ideal for students who find it difficult to initiate or organise academic writing. Lightkey can make it less daunting to get started. Lightkey offers a distraction-free writing space, ideal for students who become overwhelmed, and it can therefore improve focus. Lightkey suggests words and phrases in real time, helping students start and continue writing without overthinking. Additionally, unlike free spelling tools, Lightkey's suggestions become more tailored over time, offering consistent phrasing and structure that can build writing confidence. Where a condition fluctuates, and when mood is low, during depressive episodes or burnout, and when energy and processing speed are reduced, Lightkey's predictive typing requires fewer keystrokes, making it easier to express ideas, with less effort. Lightkey's suggestions become more tailored over time, this can build writing confidence. The predictable behaviour of Lightkey also offers consistency, unlike free tools where unpredictable corrections can feel inconsistent.

	Its "AI" functionality is grounded in the fact it learns from the individual, The software, however, is installed locally on the device. Lightkey ensures context aware prediction using AI to suggest phrases based on the information entered by the user but draws on the content that has been written previously by the user. Where there is perfectionism, Lightkey can help to give confidence that the output will be accurate. Lightkey's interface is clean and focused, helping to work in a distraction-free mode where concentration is poor, this will offer additional support. Minimises frustration by correcting mistakes with 60+ specialist dictionaries. Lightkey's fully offline operation is compliant with data protection. An optional read-aloud functionality for both predictions and corrections supports multi-sensory reinforcement. Lightkey can integrate with text-to-speech technology, such as TextAid.

Writing and Reviewing Academic work	
Physical disability	Given the disability-related needs, **Lightkey** can offer several advantages over standard/free spelling and grammar tools. Whilst the changes to SLC's funding guidance and the Student Support Information Note (SSIN) to remove non-specialist spelling and grammar software from DSA funding are acknowledged, the guidance document indicates that this type of software will still be considered on a case-by-case basis. Lightkey will address the following unique disability related needs arising directly from the diagnosis, offering a bespoke solution via the exceptional case process. Where a condition brings limited dexterity, reduced strength, or pain while typing, Lightkey significantly reduces physical effort and speeds up writing by minimising keystrokes with word and phrase prediction, substantially reducing strain. Lightkey can predict and complete words and phrases in real time, often after just a few keystrokes, and therefore offers greater functionality than a free word processor/spell checking facility where it is necessary to type out full words manually. Even where speech-to-text (STT) technology can be used, there are scenarios during course delivery where the use of STT is not possible or inappropriate, and Lightkey offers an alternative for keyboard input. Its "AI" functionality is grounded in the fact it learns from the individual, the software, however, is installed locally on the device. Lightkey ensures context aware prediction using AI to suggest phrases based on the information entered by the user but draws on the content that has been written previously by the user. With traditional word processors/free spelling and grammar tools, several interface navigation steps are required to correct errors. Lightkey corrects spelling and grammar mistakes without the need for backspacing or mouse use to correct errors. This is a key accessibility benefit not available with a free tool. Where there are difficulties with the mechanics of typing, Lightkey reduces

	repetitive motion, which can help with fatigue or pain. Lightkey can help address problems with physical exhaustion arising from a diagnosis. With Lightkey, it is possible to complete work more quickly and with fewer movements. Lightkey assists students during episodes of brain fog, helping to express ideas more fluently without searching for words, supporting memory and word finding issues, this degree of support is not available in a standard word processor or with free spelling and grammar tools. Lightkey works with alternative input devices for accessibility. Lightkey's reduced typing demand makes it better suited to assistive setups. Lightkey's interface is clean and focused, helping to work in a distraction-free mode. Minimises frustration by correcting mistakes with 60+ specialist dictionaries. An optional read-aloud functionality for both predictions and corrections supports multi-sensory reinforcement. Lightkey can integrate with text-to-speech technology, such as TextAid. Lightkey's fully offline operation is compliant with data protection.

Writing and Reviewing Academic work	
Dyscalculia	Given the disability-related impacts, **Lightkey** can offer several advantages over standard/free spelling and grammar tools. Whilst the changes to SLC's funding guidance and the Student Support Information Note (SSIN) to remove non-specialist spelling and grammar software from DSA funding are acknowledged, the guidance document indicates that this type of software will still be considered on a case-by-case basis. Lightkey will address the following unique disability related needs arising directly from the difficulties associated with Dyscalculia, offering a bespoke solution via the exceptional case process. Lightkey can be more supportive for students with dyscalculia, particularly in relation to challenges with sequencing, memory, written expression, and anxiety around numbers or structure. As Lightkey predicts full words and phrases, this reduces the burden of spelling, syntax, and structure, helping to overcome problems with sequencing and working memory. Free solutions provide only post-error correction, meaning that it is necessary to construct each sentence independently. Lightkey's "AI" functionality is grounded in the fact it learns from the individual, the software, however, is installed locally on the device. Lightkey ensures context aware prediction using AI to suggest phrases based on the information entered previously by the user only, drawing only on content that has been written by the user. Where math-related anxiety spills over into other academic tasks, with free solutions, as mistakes must be corrected after they are made, this can disrupt writing flow and increase frustration. With Lightkey, as it proactively reduces spelling and grammatical errors, this helps to avoid repeated corrections and backspacing. Where there are difficulties organising thoughts, Lightkey offers scaffolded support. Multi-phrase

	prediction offers structured suggestions that help with fluent writing and writing flow. Lightkey adapts to an individual's writing style. Standard word processors don't adapt in the same way, making it harder to improve writing fluency over time. This can help to reduce the cognitive load associated with spelling and sentence construction, allowing individuals to focus more on concepts and organisation of ideas in writing. Lightkey supports users by reducing the cognitive load of writing numbers. Lightkey's fully offline operation is compliant with data protection. An optional read-aloud functionality for both predictions and corrections supports multi-sensory reinforcement.

Writing and Reviewing Academic work	
Visual Impairment	Given the disability-related impacts, **Lightkey** can offer several advantages over standard/free spelling and grammar tools. Whilst the changes to SLC's funding guidance and the Student Support Information Note (SSIN) to remove non-specialist spelling and grammar software from DSA funding are acknowledged, the guidance document indicates that this type of software will still be considered on a case-by-case basis. Lightkey will address the following unique disability related needs arising directly from the diagnosis, offering a bespoke solution via the exceptional case process. With standard word processors/ free solutions interaction is via toolbars, ribbons, and pop-ups that can be visually overwhelming and difficult to navigate. Lightkey offers a high-contrast workspace that reduces visual clutter and allows students to adjust text size and contrast with ease helping overcome problems of low vision or visual fatigue, this greatly improves readability and comfort during extended writing sessions. Lightkey predicts words and phrases after a few keystrokes, this makes writing less tiring where there are problems with eye movement or visual tracking difficulties. Using Lightkey can prevent writing mistakes allowing for fewer visual interruptions and a smoother writing flow, reducing fatigue. Its "AI" functionality is grounded in the fact it learns from the individual, the software, however, is installed locally on the device. Lightkey ensures context aware prediction using AI to suggest phrases based on the information entered by the user but drawing only on the content that has been written previously by the user. Lightkey speeds up writing with fewer keystrokes and less need for visual correction. This is important where screen magnifiers, Braille displays, or other vision-related assistive technology (AT) is used.

	Lightkey's offline operation is compliant with data protection. An optional read-aloud functionality is available for both predictions and corrections.