The National Digital and Adapted Resources Observatory in France

The context for the use of ICT for Inclusion

The National Digital and Adapted Resources Observatory was created in November 2007 by the Minister of National Education. Under the auspices of the INS HEA, its mission is to identify, analyse and evaluate digital resources for use by non-specialist teachers involved in the education of students with disabilities. These resources can be software, hardware, websites, CD-ROMs, DVD-ROMs, digital libraries and so on. The Observatory is also responsible for disseminating the results of its observations.

The resources listed are not intended to only provide solutions for a given type of disorder or disability; rather in most cases all students in the class can use them. The main aim is to remove barriers to learning.

The Observatory's intent is not to present an exhaustive list of products available on the market. Indeed, many products appear each week, while others are removed. The main selection criteria are that these products are actually used in the classroom and that their teaching quality is proven.

To assist the Observatory in its monitoring mission, any publisher or any user (teacher, parent, student, etc.) can submit a resource through these two websites:

Lecolepourtous: http://www.ecolepourtous.education.fr/

L'Observatoire des ressources numériques adaptées: http://orna.inshea.fr

The policy context

This structure was created in November 2007 by the Minister of National Education to promote the use of ICT by pupils with disabilities in inclusive settings.

The use of ICT

- Documents describing hardware and software
- Documents explaining best practices
- · Articles.

Key outcomes and benefits

- Opportunity to submit a question on the website and receive a direct response from the INS HEA experts.
- Assistant professors have joined the team in order to develop this project.

Main challenges and obstacles

The equipment is constantly evolving and software is based on operating systems in perpetual change.

Technical and pedagogical documents should be updated frequently.

Additional information

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