Reading and writing software to support the inclusion of students with dyslexia The context for the use of ICT for Inclusion

The software products Lingdys (Norwegian language) and Lingright (English for Norwegians), developed by the company Lingit AS, are reading and writing support tools for pupils with dyslexia. The pupils use the tools to read different kinds of material (in electronic format) and write texts that can be understood by teachers and other pupils. Lingdys and Lingright are used both at school and at home on laptops and PCs, and enable pupils to take part in normal teaching activities, provided that they are allowed to use laptops.

The policy context

Norwegian educational policy states that learners with dyslexia should have the same opportunities as non-dyslexic pupils, both in compulsory and higher education.

The use of ICT

The software from Lingit AS features specially designed spell-checkers, word completion, speech synthesis, dictionary lookup with speech, and seamless integration with all major text production suites on the Windows platform. The software is used in all relevant learning situations in schools, provided that PCs are available.

The software is easy to use: after a brief introduction, most motivated pupils are able to use the tools. It is very important that teachers recognise that pupils with dyslexia need assistive software. Teachers and parents should know the basics of the software in order to identify and assist pupils who can benefit from using such tools.

Key outcomes and benefits

Students with dyslexia are able to follow the same classes and teaching as non-dyslexic students. This applies to teaching in Norwegian language (Lingdys) and for Norwegian students learning English (Lingright), enabling students with dyslexia to write fairly coherent and correct English texts.

Main challenges and obstacles

It is very important that teachers recognise that pupils with dyslexia need assistive software. It is also a problem for the learners (and for us as a software manufacturer) that school owners sometimes prefer cheaper, lower-quality assistive software.

Additional information

Information on software products for learners with dyslexia:

Lingit company website: www.lingit.no

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