

## **Assistive Technology Tools** **A Parent Guide**

The following is a description of the three most commonly used assistive technology tools at SIS. There are brief tutorials for each found at the link provided. Students will all be trained on these tools, but if they have more questions, they can see Mrs. Gillis, room 114, for support.

\*\*Students can also use this link to learn more about logging into Google Chrome at home:

<https://youtu.be/DJWUcftrcCs>

### **Kurzweil 3000: Text to Speech (type in www.kurzweil3000.com)** **Username and password are both “ sischool “)**

Kurzweil is a tool that students use to assist them with reading textbooks and novels.

-this website has a “universal library” of texts and novels that are used in the Public Schools Branch. On the website, students can follow the red folders (PEI School System) to find the textbook or novel that they need.

-students can also copy and paste from these books to a google doc if they are responding to questions. This makes it a great tool for students who have difficulty copying from a text to their paper. They can have the text read to them to help them find the answer to the question, and then copy and paste the answer to their document and edit it as needed.

[https://youtu.be/52j-4z\\_npMQ](https://youtu.be/52j-4z_npMQ)

### **Google Read and Write: Text to Speech (purple puzzle piece app- This has to be downloaded from the Google Play store)**

Google Read and Write is also a text to speech function, however, it enables students to have text from websites and text from google docs read to them.

-when the google read and write app is open, you can press “play” to have text from any website read to you. (see tutorial to learn how to do this).

-This is also a very valuable tool for students and teachers since it gives students the option to have their own work read back to them when they are working on a google doc. They can hear what they have written and pick out their errors. It's an excellent tool for editing their own work.

-Class notes, and notes in Google Classroom can be read to students using Google Read and Write

-If tests or assignments are in Google Docs, students can have the test or assignment read to them.

<https://youtu.be/NuwJXftBawU>

### **Google Voice Typing (you can find this under “tools” on a google doc)**

This tool is excellent for students who struggle getting their ideas down on paper due to issues with spelling and/or fine motor skills. It works well for students who have good oral skills but who don't write everything they know because they are slow to write, or they choose to write only words they know how to spell. It's also great for anyone who wants a quick way to get their ideas down on paper.

-Voice typing works much better than the old versions of voice typing so don't be afraid to use it.

-it works great in combination with google Read and Write as students can use voice typing to write their thoughts on paper, and then use Read and Write to have it read back so they can edit what they have written. Students who take the time to use both tools can write a well written paper/test.

-if tests are done in Google Docs, teachers can have students go to the learning center to complete the test by using Google Read and Write to have it read to them, and then students can use Voice Typing to complete their answers.

<https://youtu.be/KIBJHIH7xEY>