CENTURY

SEND and Accessibility

Supporting SEND Learners

Adaptive Learning

CENTURY is an adaptive platform designed to deliver Quality First Teaching and a truly differentiated provision for every student. The principle of Quality First Teaching emphasises effective teaching strategies and practices that are designed to meet the diverse learning needs of all students, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), from the outset.

CENTURY empowers all learners, including those with SEND, to make sustained progress and retain knowledge for the long term by:

- ✓ constantly assessing student understanding
- ✓ identifying individual strengths and weaknesses
- ✓ strategically revisiting concepts at optimal intervals to strengthen memory

CENTURY's Learning Material

Our content is underpinned by cognitive neuroscience, including Cognitive Load Theory. This ensures information is presented in manageable chunks to prevent overload, particularly beneficial for students with working memory challenges. We also integrate Rosenshine's Principles of Instruction and the foundations of Quality First Teaching to create a structured and effective learning experience.

Learn more about how CENTURY's content and features support SEND learners here

There are various ways you can use CENTURY to support SEND learners. Some usage models that might work for you include:

Flexible Usage Models for Targeted SEND Support

✓ Targeted Intervention via Assignments

Teachers can set specific nuggets to address identified needs using Assignments, or create a Smart Assignment for work tailored to CENTURY's recommendations.

✓ Learner-Led Exploration

Students, supported by adults or independently, can navigate to their My Courses tab or their Learner Dashboard to review strengths, areas for improvement, and foster self-regulation by accessing their Focus and Stretch recommendations.

⬡ **CENTURY**

Accessibility Features:

✓ **Subtitles on learning material**

All learning videos on CENTURY have subtitles to support student learning.
Learn more about enabling subtitles [here](#)

✓ **Colour overlay**

Learners can apply colour overlays within nuggets on CENTURY; some students will find this reduces visual distortions and makes text easier to read.
Learn how to activate colour overlays [here](#)

✓ **Adjustable Video Playback Speed**

Allows learners to slow down or speed up video content to match their individual processing pace, aiding comprehension for students with cognitive, auditory, or language processing differences and also useful for EAL students.

✓ **Image Zoom:**

CENTURY's adaptive design allows learners with visual impairments who use their browser's zoom functionality to access websites to continue doing so.

✓ **No Time Limits:**

Students are free to take the time they need to answer questions in nuggets and diagnostics.

✓ **Text-to-Speech**

We recommend a text-to-speech tool such as "Read Aloud" for any learners with visual impairments or for those who struggle with reading.

Full details can be found in our [Platform Accessibility Information](#)

Complete 30 Nuggets

Complete 400 Nuggets

Complete 700 Nuggets

Achieve 100% in 180 Nuggets

Achieve 100% in 60 Nuggets

Achieve 100% in 380 Nuggets

Working Below Age-Related Expectations

Learners who are working significantly below their age-related expectations may need access to different courses which are appropriate to them. We have a range of courses available, including a suite of Functional Skills courses.

Fostering Student Motivation and Engagement

CENTURY is designed to keep learners actively engaged and motivated in their learning journey. Beyond personalised pathways, the platform utilises features like badges and streaks to celebrate progress and encourage consistent effort, which can be particularly motivating for students with SEND, fostering a sense of achievement and self-efficacy.

Please **reach out to your Account Manager or support@century.tech** if you would like to discuss your class set-up on CENTURY.

Parental and Guardian Engagement

Parental engagement is profoundly beneficial for students with SEND because parents and guardians possess unique insights into their child's needs, strengths, and challenges, making them invaluable partners in the educational process. Their involvement can lead to improved academic achievement, better social-emotional development, and more effective tailored interventions, ultimately enhancing the child's overall learning experience and outcomes.

CENTURY's Guardian Portal significantly facilitates this by allowing parents to directly view their child's progress, strengths, and areas for improvement on the platform. This real-time access enables parents to have informed conversations with their child and teachers, provide targeted support at home, and actively participate in their child's personalised learning journey, fostering a stronger home-school partnership crucial for SEND success.

Data and Reporting

CENTURY's analytics can be used by SEND Co-ordinators and teachers to:

- ✓ identify areas of difficulty
- ✓ inform individualised learning plans and targeted interventions
- ✓ monitor progress and adjust support as needed

This data-driven insight empowers educators to continuously refine individual learning plans, ensuring provision remains truly personalised and effective.

 CENTURY

Supporting SEND Learners

How Our Content Supports SEND Learners

CENTURY's Learning Material

Our learning material is meticulously crafted through a unique blend of educational expertise, cutting-edge technology, and robust scientific research. This multi-faceted approach ensures that our content is not only accurate and comprehensive but also highly effective for every learner.

Expert-Led Content Creation

All videos, questions, and slideshows are exclusively created by **subject specialist experienced teachers**. This ensures that the content is pedagogically sound, curriculum-aligned, and directly addresses the needs of students of all abilities. We incorporate **cognitive neuroscience** and **learning science research** for the latest understanding of how the brain learns, to optimise retention and understanding.

"Nugget" Micro-Lessons

Our extensive learning material is broken down into "nuggets", which are short, focused micro-lessons. Each nugget is designed around a specific learning objective and includes:

- ✅ engaging learning content with detailed explanations
- ✅ modelling of concepts with worked examples
- ✅ opportunities for practice and questions that are marked instantly with feedback

Inside a Nugget

Within each nugget, specific pedagogical strategies are implemented to create an inclusive and effective learning experience for students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND):

✓ Small Step Planning (Nuggets)

Specific, sequential areas of learning make complex topics more manageable for students, including those with diverse learning needs.

✓ Anticipating and Planning for Errors

Common misconceptions are identified and addressed directly within the videos and through assessment feedback. This proactive approach helps to pre-empt difficulties and provide immediate, targeted support.

✓ Assessment for Learning

Continuous assessment is integrated into CENTURY usage through guided practice within the learning content and assessment questions in each nugget. This allows for ongoing monitoring of understanding and immediate intervention.

✓ Concrete and Pictorial Representations

The content utilises images of common manipulatives (concrete methods) and pictorial representations to explain abstract concepts. These visual scaffolds aid understanding, particularly for learners who benefit from multi-modal approaches.

✓ Modelling Metacognition

In the videos, teachers explicitly model problem-solving and thinking processes, including planning, monitoring, and evaluation. This helps students to develop their own metacognitive skills.

✓ Explicit Vocabulary Instruction

Subject-specific vocabulary is explicitly taught across all subjects and Key Stages within every nugget. This is often supported by pictorial examples to enhance comprehension.

✓ Matching Modality (Audio and Visual)

Videos effectively use both audio and visual channels to convey complementary information, such as narrated animations, to help students follow what is being taught.

✓ Signalling Important Information

Key information is highlighted in various ways, including showing keywords or highlighting text, to help learners focus on crucial aspects of the content.

✓ Segmenting Learning

Nuggets are segmented into short, digestible parts, allowing learners to pause, practise, and control their own pace, which is particularly beneficial for students who require more processing time.

✓ Examples and Non-Examples

Content includes both examples that support a concept and non-examples, with explanations of why they don't fit, to clearly define concept boundaries.

✓ Purposeful Practice

Students are given specific, guided tasks within the learning content. These skills are broken down into chunks, ensuring that students practise correctly and master concepts incrementally.

These design principles, embedded within the content creation, aim to make learning more accessible, scaffolded, and adaptable for all students, including those with SEND.

Platform Accessibility Information

Our vision is for every learner to have access to intelligent tools that enable them to succeed.

Accessibility and inclusion are woven into the fabric of our platform design and content creation processes. We have worked with the National Association for Special Educational Needs (nasen), and their expert advisors, to optimise the accessibility of CENTURY, ensuring we are meeting the diverse needs of all individuals. We believe that accessibility is not a one-time effort but a continuous journey toward creating a learning environment that caters to all users, including those with additional learning needs.

Legal compliance and Standards

While there are no specific UK legal requirements mandating particular accessibility features for private sector platforms like CENTURY, we strive to exceed expectations and align closely with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG). WCAG is recognised as the gold standard for digital accessibility, and adhering as closely as possible to its guidelines helps us strive for inclusivity. Our learner experience is partially conformant to WCAG 2.2 AA standards, with action plans for the remaining four criteria.

It is important to note that public bodies, including further education colleges (but excluding schools), are required to comply with accessibility regulations for content and apps they develop. Legally, third-party apps and content used by public bodies provided to staff/learners are not obliged to comply with these accessibility regulations, with the public bodies able to apply exceptions where needed.

Platform design

✓ Text within questions is compatible with many common screenreaders e.g. Read Aloud, which are being successfully used across our subscribing educational organisations.

✓ Coloured overlay options on learning materials and assessment questions cater for a wide range of learning needs, including but not limited to, dyslexia and Irlen syndrome.

✓ Hover-over explanation labels are used throughout the platform that assist in the accessibility of the iconography used.

✓ Subtitles are provided on all learning videos to support hearing-impaired users.

✓ Learners are able to select and focus on one particular subject if desired.

✓ Video content offers variable playback speed, accommodating learners who benefit from adjusting the pace of content delivery.

✓ The platform is mobile-optimised for learners. For further device-specific support, we recommend reviewing your device's built-in accessibility options.

✓ The user interface, including dashboards, is designed to ensure inclusivity and readability, using iconography, colour coding and/or numbers to enhance visual clarity.

Content Design

✓ All CENTURY content is created by our team of experienced teachers who are subject specialists in their fields. Nuggets usually contain two versions of the learning materials. The video and slideshow formats available present the same content in different formats. This allows learners to select the most accessible version depending on their requirements.

✓ Extraneous information is left out of all our content, such as irrelevant images, background music or sounds.

✓ The template themes within each subject's slides have been designed with accessibility and inclusion in mind. Consideration has been given to font, text size and layout options to ensure clarity. Colour schemes ensure high contrast while still being accessible to those who are colourblind.

✓ Signalling is used within our content by highlighting text such as key words. Within videos, this is also animated accordingly.

✓ Within each nugget, the skills and knowledge are segmented appropriately, focussing on a specific learning objective.

✓ We strive to represent different genders, races, and disabilities throughout the imagery included in our content to be as inclusive as possible.

✓ By ensuring each nugget pinpoints a particular skill or portion of knowledge, this allows CENTURY courses to provide meaningful and scaffolded recommendations.

✓ Animations within our videos have match modality with the narration and subtitles available. Similarly, the visuals available on the slideshows complement the text displayed.

✓ Cognitive load principles are considered throughout the design process. This allows learners to effectively manage the intrinsic load while minimising any extraneous load within our content, maximising their germane load.

Our nuggets follow a Quality First Teaching (QFT) approach

✓ Learning material regularly contains modelling of examples and non-examples, setting the boundaries of difficult concepts. Subsequent assessment questions provide opportunities for purposeful practice with seen modelled questions, while providing additional opportunities to apply skills and knowledge to unseen contexts. The development of questions in this way enables teachers to easily identify where each learner requires support.

✓ Question feedback is provided to learners that helps to explain why the learner is wrong before they are able to reveal the correct answer.

✓ The introduction of skills and knowledge often uses pictorial representations of common manipulatives and other representatives to aid with understanding and the concept-building process.

✓ Common misconceptions are addressed within the learning material and assessment questions of each nugget.

✓ Where appropriate, the teaching of vocabulary is explicit, sometimes including the etymology of the word or stem. Key words are often available at the end of the learning material when relevant.

Continuous Commitment

Our commitment to accessibility is ongoing. We are continually developing new tools and enhancing existing features and content to ensure our platform supports all learners effectively. Although we do not have fixed delivery timescales, our proactive approach aims to keep our community informed of all updates and improvements.

Accessibility developments being considered in our product roadmap include:

- ☑ Content improvements based on user feedback, suggestions and requests
- ☑ Improved algorithms to mark questions that require a written response
- ☑ Introducing coloured background options for dashboards
- ☑ Different learning modes for users
- ☑ Built-in read-aloud functionality
- ☑ Further mobile optimisation
- ☑ Expanding SSO integrations

We invite feedback and suggestions on how we can further improve accessibility at CENTURY. This can be done within the platform using the help button or email support@century.tech.

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