SDS & TEC

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Self Directed Support and Technology

How we decide to use TEC/technology

How to assess for TEC/technology

How to use the funding to purchase technology

How we decide to use TEC/Tech

◦ We start with open and honest conversations with our service users and their carers finding out what is important to them

◦ We have Peer Mentors to support staff to "think TEC first" so traditional services are not always first choice

◦ We discuss options with service users where we talk about the positives of embracing TEC/technology
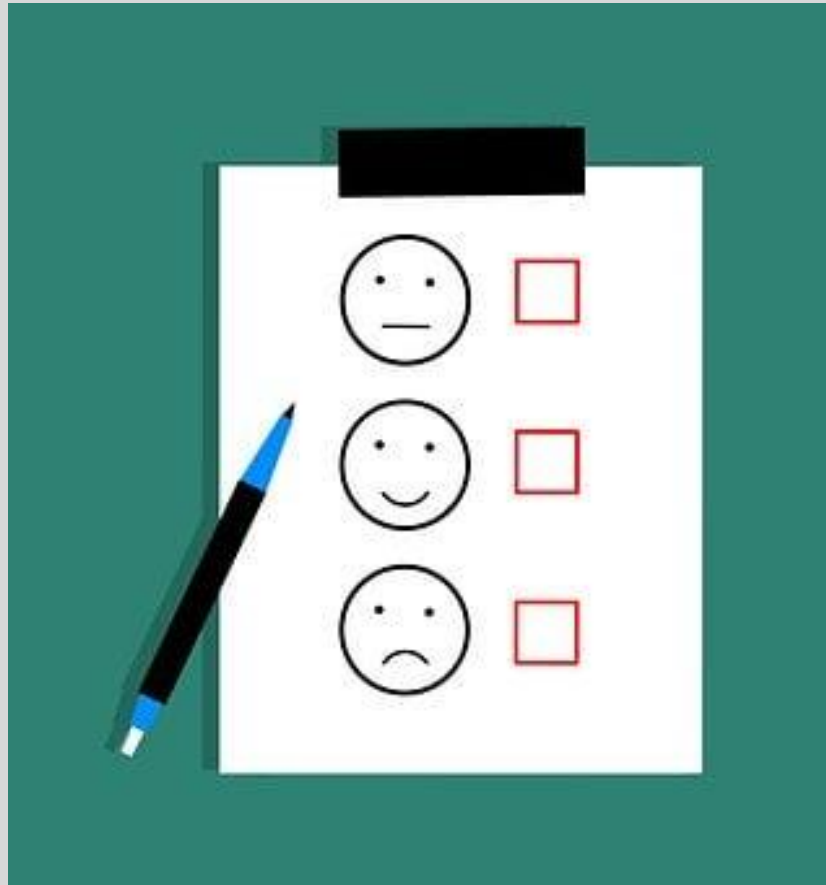
How to assess for technology

- Any person accessing an SDS budget will go through a **My Life My Plan** assessment that allows us to explore 6 areas of their life considering support needs, risks and carer viewpoints

- These 6 areas are scored using a points matrix which then converts to an **indicative SDS budget**.

- From these 6 areas being assessed we are able to create **personalised outcomes** for each person, these can range from reducing social isolation to carers respite to social supports for the person to be an active member of their local community.

- The outcomes that are identified are **agreed** with the service user and their carer so that a course of action can be put in place – this may be traditional services.

- Peer Mentors support staff to **"think TEC first"** by providing advice and guidance on the use of TEC/technology to meet outcomes identified in assessment.

- **Reviews** are completed annually to assess for changes.

How to assess for technology

- Before TEC/technology is agreed discussions will be held with service users and their carers to assess any support the person may need using the TEC/technology

- Where possible we will show or demonstrate the person the TEC/technology so they can ask questions

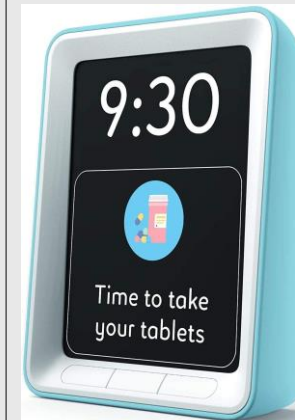- We have dedicated space that service users can visit to see TEC/technology

How to use the funding to purchase technology

◦ SDS options allow us to fund TEC through options 1/2/4

◦ We have a dedicated finance team that can purchase items via an option 2 budget for those who do not manage their own funds.

◦ We can pay costs such as Wifi when this would be an additional expense for a person

◦ Items belong to the service user but they are then responsible for any updates/add ons/maintenance

- Purchase of an ipad to shop online and maintain contact with family/attend NHS appointments - no social supports required to complete shopping tasks, reduced social isolation, better attendance at MH support appointments

- Purchase of a smart watch and use of apps such as Life 360 – allowed a young person to attend college, be more independent and get out into their community, which let him build more independence and confidence, put family's mind at rest he was safe and could contact support if needed

- Purchase of an Alexa show which allowed a family to check in with their Mum, set medication reminders and prompts for mealtimes/visits, reduced carer stress

- Purchase of a droplet cup to increase fluid intake and help prevent UTI's which were a recurring problem

Service user stories

Benefits of using TEC/Technology

- Person centred approach, the service user is kept at the heart of the process at all times

- Aims to empower the service user to feel more independent and/or safer in their home/community

- Allows for some calculated risks to be discussed and agreed with service user and their carer

- Can reduce the need for more traditional services being put in place

- Cost benefits – one off payment for equipment rather than an ongoing payment for service

Questions, queries, comments?

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