

Awards for All – End of grant report

Please complete, sign and return this form as soon as your project has finished.

Send your form to:
 Awards for All England
 2 St James' Gate
 Newcastle Upon Tyne
 NE1 4BE

Submit by 22/3/2012

Unique reference number	AFE/1/010380526
Project name	AACT through Winkball/Viewtalk
Organisation	Access-Ability Communications Technology (AACT)

Part one: How the grant has been spent

Give a breakdown of the items or activities funded by the grant. We may ask to see receipts later but you do not need to enclose them with this form.

A Item or activity	B Total cost	C Amount from Awards for All	Guidance
Project Community Coordinator	4080.00	4080.00	<p>Guidance</p> <p>In column A list all the individual items or activities that your grant was spent on.</p> <p>In column B put the total amount you spent on each item or activity.</p> <p>In column C put how much was paid for from your Awards for All grant.</p> <p>If Awards for All funded your entire project costs then the figures in B and C will be the same.</p> <p>The figures you put in should be the actual amounts. These may be different from estimates in your application form.</p>
Community Activities Trainer	2880.00	2880.00	
4 Flip Video Recorders (£509 saved)	267.00	267.00	
Travel & Subsistence (£480)	473.12	473.12	
AACT Website Development	0	0	
Dissemination/Reporting	520.00	520.00	
Support from Correspondent Ltd. (20 webcams at £499.80)	499.80	0	
Beneficiaries Support (£354)	0	0	
Total amount spent	8719.92	8220.12	

If the details above are different from what you put in your application form, why is this? Give details of any contact you had with us to agree any changes. You will need to return any of the grant you have not spent to us.

Correspondent Ltd. very kindly contributed towards the purchasing of 20 webcams costing £499.80 which enabled AACT to spend £267 on 4 flip recorders. We did budget originally for £776 towards 15 Phillips Webcams at £51.53 each.

Part two: What the grant has achieved

2 a) Tell us about the difference your project has made to the people that were involved in it.

The majority of the 34 participants with special educational needs in the Viewtalk pilot project really enjoyed the skills required in making short video recording by talking to the webcam. Some of the comments from the students were -*"I've never seen myself like this before"*; *"You have to keep in the picture and not move around"*; *"I need to look smarter"*; *"You have to remember to make it short and not talk too much"*; *"Look at the webcam but don't stare"*. Ha Ha *"I need to prepare my talk more"*.

They liked selecting different topics of educational interest (sport, films, history, geography etc.) when talking to the webcam and sending video messages to different members of their group but 2 were quite selective and did not want to communicate with all members of the group. As the messages were only private to the group, it was understandable that they were selective even though they were encouraged to communicate with everyone.

Most of them realised it was not easy to produce a really good video recording as one had to think of communication skills including background lighting, speaking clearly, having good eye contact and being aware of facial expressions.

With lots of practice the participants really started to understand that once they press the "record" button, the webcam will capture everything that is being said/done in front of it, until they click on the "stop" button. They all felt confident in providing instructions and information to others about producing video messages; and they also found it helpful to write down what they wanted to say in their respective video messages before they recorded it, in case they forgot.

As Viewtalk is an alternative way to contact friends when they are not physically present, they did understand that even though their parents had given permission to use Viewtalk at school in an educational and private way that when they were at home they could use this system with their parent's permission to contact friends as a means of using video online communication. They also understood that this system could be used locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Most of them became aware that for their own safety and wellbeing, a password to an online account should not be shared with anyone apart from their parents.

The participants really liked developing the skills of interviewing other participants by using the flip recorder. As the flip is small and handheld, they were careful not to shake and get a distorted picture of the interviewee when recording. They also realised that to get the best results it helps if you prepare the questions for the interviewer and interviewee.

All of them considered that the Viewtalk training had helped them gain new skills in video online communication.

Some of their comments were as follows:

"It has made me more confident of working on computers".

"It is viewing, seeing and talking which is magic".

"The flip is great and loading onto the computer".

"Thank you for bringing the webcams-they are great!"

"The picture is clear".

"Can we have more training after the summer holidays?"

It was not only the 34 SEN participants who benefited from the Viewtalk video online programme but also about 100 teachers, parents, volunteers and others who were part of this educational interactive communication experiment.

A comprehensive Report has been produced which will accompany this "End of Project Report".

2 b) Tell us about any wider benefits to the community.

AACT undertook some community awareness raising in the Berkshire area mainly during the first six months. Schools and other outlets were contacted via email, telephone and links with Radio Berkshire and local Television. Whilst this was being carried out, discussions were taking place with other SEN schools/youth clubs/comprehensive schools with Units for children with special needs which might want to become part of this inclusive network partnership. Contact was made with the Head Teacher of a well known girls' school in Reading who in turn contacted two of her senior staff who became part of this network and now want to involve a group of suitable pupils as part of their community service. She has also helped to introduce AACT to the Head of a school near Newbury which we have since been used for Viewtalk Training.

A power point presentation about the pilot project was delivered to members of the University of Reading Friends' Club, accompanied by audio recordings that explained the contents of Viewtalk on each slide. This was organised by one of AACT's Trustee/Directors who was, before she retired, the Pro Vice Chancellor of The University of Reading.

Through the Annual BETT Exhibition in London, AACT was able to promote the project and network with a variety of educational companies and collect ICT educational and child-directed resources. The Head of Education of Microlink has subsequently become interested in the Viewtalk training and wants to become more involved in any future training project as they focus on assistive technology for children and young people with disabilities.

As AACT was based on a University campus, we were able to recruit some volunteer student psychologists after giving a talk about the Viewtalk Training Programme. 5 of them became regular assistant trainers who have learnt a great deal about SEN/disability and the importance of ICT for present and future learning.

The Correspondent Ltd. office in London was visited to establish personal contact with the Viewtalk Coordinator/Journalist & PR/Media Officer. Relevant press releases for circulation in Berkshire, with the support of the South East Regional Office of BIG (Big Lottery Fund) were produced which has produced a number of enquires.

The "Beyond Boundaries" Cross Sector Conference interested in growing a Big Society in Reading was attended and the project promoted. Important local contacts/ resources and possible future grants have been explored. The Reading Children's & Voluntary Youth Services Manager has continued to show interest and wants his children to be included in future Viewtalk training.

An article for distribution to the SEN magazine/ other publications/local websites about the educational value of Viewtalk has been written and circulated to the wider community. At least 25 responses have been received about Viewtalk and its usage with those with disabilities.

How many people directly benefited from the grant?

132

Part three: Declaration

The declaration must be signed by the main or senior contacts in your application form. If they have changed since your application, please contact Awards for All and ask for a 'Change of contact details form', which you should complete and send back with this form.

I confirm that the details in this form are correct and that we will keep all financial records and accounts, including receipts for items purchased with the award, for at least two years from payment of the grant. We understand that this does not release us from our statutory obligations to keep records for longer periods. We are aware that we may be asked to forward receipts for inspection or that we may be visited by you to inspect our records.

Title	Forenames (in full)	Surname
Professor	James	Crabbe
Position in organisation		
Chair of Trustee/Directors of AACT		
Signature		Date

For office use only

Report reviewed on (date):

Expenditure checked

Benefits checked

Grant closure letter sent

Refund Due? Yes No

Comments:

Mr Kenneth Carter
Uttley Room BG05
University of Reading
Bulmershe Court Campus
Woodlands Avenue
Earley
READING
RG6 1HY

3 April 2012

Unique reference number: AFE/1/010380526
Project name: AACT Through Winkball & Viewtalk

Dear Mr Carter

Awards for All – Grant closed

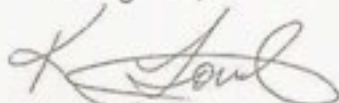
Thank you for sending us your end of grant report.

We have reviewed this and can confirm that it meets our requirements, so we have closed your Awards for All grant file.

You can keep up to date with Big Lottery Fund programmes that may be suitable for your organisation by visiting our website www.biglotteryfund.org.uk. Should you wish to apply to another of our funding programmes we recommend you read 'Getting Funding and Planning Successful Projects: BIG's guide to outcomes' found in the big learning zone on our website. You can also find out about all the organisations that distribute Lottery funds by visiting www.lotteryfunding.org.uk

Congratulations on completing your project. We wish you every success in your future work.

Kind Regards,



Kayla Fowler
Assistant Grants Officer
Tel: 0191 376 1788
Email: kayla.fowler@biglotteryfund.org.uk

Big Lottery Fund
2 St James' Gate
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BE
T 0191 376 1600
F 0191 376 1661
A 0191 376 1776
www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

UK Chair
Peter Ainsworth

England Chair
Nat Stosne

UK Chief Executive
Peter Wanless CB

We are committed to bringing re-
improvements to communities a-
to the lives of people most in ne-



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE