# How ideamapper helps students of varying abilities plan, write and reference

Callum Ferguson has been the Sales and Marketing Manager at ideamapper for 5 years and is responsible for integrating ideamapper into Assistive Technology platforms, such as the Disabled Student Allowance and Access to Work. Callum looks after the many markets ideamapper operates in which includes K-12, Higher Education, Assistive Technology and the Professional Market. His current focus is making ideamapper more inclusive and accessible for all students.

Callum Ferguson will outline the unique innovative features of ideamapper that helps address the cognitive challenges of note taking, grasping complex learning concepts and constructing written assignments across all subject areas including STEM.

## ideamapper University Pilots Australia

ideamapper is currently offering free pilots to universities and TAFEs for the remainder of the 2020 academic year to allow all students to have access to an effective mindmapping technology during these challenging times.

Jim Sprialis is an Inclusive Education and Technology Consultant and has been a leading influence in the field of inclusion and technology for 30 years. With a specialist knowledge base around disability and learning difficulties such as Dyslexia, he is passionate about promoting inclusive technologies and universal design approaches. Jim is the Australian contact for ideamapper.

## What is ideamapper?

* ideamapper was originally created as a solution for students with specific learning disabilities who struggled to write large amounts of text, such as essays and reports.
* Designed by PHd’s and a Dyslexia expert, with an MBE for services to Dyslexia and other hidden disabilities.
* ideamapper uses mind mapping to help students manage information in a bitesize format, helping unlock ideas otherwise lost in a jumble of information.
* Includes a vast array of templates and writing frames are included to help the students get started with their essays.
* ideamapper will soon be fully AT compatible, with accessibility standards and will be compatible with screenreaders, JAWS and Dragon.

## How does mind mapping benefit students with Dyslexia?

* Learners who have Dyslexia typically function at a high level.
* Dyslexia can however impact reading, spelling, writing, short term memory, concentration and processing information.
* One proven method to support dyslexic students is with mind mapping.
* Mind mapping can be more engaging and allow learners to practically visualise and associate concepts.
* Mind mapping allows the individual to breaks down complicated information or any information which they are struggling with into chunks, which can then be arranged into branches and sub-branches making the information easier to process.

## Planning the document

* Brain dump all the points you want to discuss in your document, no matter how relevant you think it will be.
* There is no order at this point, every idea is equally important/not important as the other.
* Start to group the ideas together to form each section of the document.
* Then start to link the ideas together; the map is ordered clockwise and the colour changes each level.
* The map now forms the structure of the document with six main sections.
* The order of the map can be changed by dragging any of the ideas around the central one.
* Delete links and re-attach to other parts of the map to add and remove information to each section.

## Structure the document

* Add clipart and change the colour of the documents to suit the user. Colours and clip art help create visual cues for the brain.
* Add a Table of Contents, Tables and Images.
* Use the map in 3D to manipulate larger maps.
* Minimise any section of the map to focus on one level at a time.

## Writing the document

* Enter text directly from the map by double clicking the idea.
* Use split-screen view to view the rest of the document when entering the text.
* Write in the text document whilst being able to see and manipulate the map.
* The map serves as a visual cue, reminding the user what section of the document they are writing on in relation to the whole document, to prevent the user going off track.

## Referencing the document

* Add references with the easy to use Reference Tool
* Automatically add a bibliography
* Reference images, diagrams and figures.

## Publish the document

* Publish as an IM Doc, Word Doc, PowerPoint.
* Present your document with Presenter

## Visual Learning

* **Concept Map:** Used as a learning and teaching technique, concept mapping visualises your thoughts, and illustrates the connection with each idea, displaying words and phrases inside the links to help explain the connections between concepts
* **Cause & Effect Map:** Cause and effect organisers help the learner identify how one action can affect another, illustrating the relationship between an action and its outcome.

## ideamapper4students Pricing[www.ideamapper.com/pricing](http://www.ideamapper.com/pricing)

Band A - (20-49 licenses) $45 per licence per year

Band B (50-99 licences) $35 per license per year

Band C (100-199 licences) $25 per licence per year

200 licences or more bespoke licensing.



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