

AV1 Robots Calderdale

Calderdale have engaged with No Isolation to produce an initial case study around the effective use of the AV1s in one of our high schools:

Child A

Key Group Details

Known to social care: No
Child looked after: No
Pupil premium: Yes
SEN status: E
Primary area(s) of need: Communication and Interaction

Rationale For AV1 Robot Use

- Child A's parents were informed that Child A had been placed at a mainstream secondary school for September 2025
- Child A's parents appealed the decision due to complex SEND needs and are awaiting a specialist setting placement
- Child A's parents state that Child A is unable to attend school until a specialist setting placement is found
- Child A struggles with anything other than 1:1 support but does benefit confidence wise from interacting with peers. This is why the AV1 robot was suggested for Child A.
- September 2025 – Started to use the AV1 robot

Parent/Carer Feedback Regarding Impact of AV1 Robot:

- Child A accesses the robot lessons through an iPad (see photo below sent by parents)
- Child A cannot currently attend school due to significant SEND needs and awaiting a specialist placement
- Parents state that Child A is enjoying watching peers complete the lessons and being able to complete most of the work with parents' help
- There were some issues with pixelation of the screen in November 2025 but this was due to internet connection issues at home and it was quickly resolved

School Feedback Regarding Impact of AV1 Robot:

We are delighted with Child A's progress since October. Child A has attended over 80% of the lessons via the robot. Staff have not met Child A in the school building as of yet as needs are so complex that attendance is not currently possible. However, there is optimism that use of the robot demonstrates that Child A can engage with education successfully and continue to interact with peers remotely.



Child B

Key Group Details

Known to social care: Yes

Child looked after: No

Pupil premium: No

SEN status: K

Primary area(s) of need: Speech, language and communication. SEMH.

Rationale For AV1 Robot Use

- 23rd September 2024 – Removal of PE from timetable, and reduced demand in Drama, Food Technology and Art
- October 2024 – Child B placed in Nurture to further support with catching up on any missed curriculum.
- Communication by school SEND team with CAMHS, MAST and other relevant professionals in times of crisis
- November 2024 – Referral for Family Support made due to behaviours at home escalating and parents feeling unable to cope
- December 2024 – Part-time timetable in place to support with poor school attendance. Child B to attend core subjects only.
- Absences for mental health authorised with illness code on mental health grounds
- January 2025 – Difficulties in school escalate as Child B will not speak to anyone in school. Child B is academically capable with primary school reporting that her reading age was 14/15, however, Child B has

not engaged with any formal testing, so it has not been possible to ascertain where her difficulties lie

- February 2025 – SEND team spoke to parent as Child B is now completely refusing to attend school and interact with anyone beyond her immediate nuclear family. Parent states that she is very concerned about Child B's levels of interaction.
- September 2025 – Started to use the AV1 robot

Parent/Carer Feedback Regarding Impact of AV1 Robot:

Parents have spoken to school staff and to the attendance team during weekly visits to share that Child B is engaging well with the lessons through the robot. She feels confident about accessing the lessons as she can passively interact with her peers and not feel anxious. After using the robot for three months, parents said that Child B was able to increase the number of lessons she attends per week. Child B is now attending five lessons a week, which is a huge step forward for her and may result in a specialist placement being secured by the local authority in the near future.

School Feedback Regarding Impact of AV1 Robot:

We are delighted with Child B's progress since September. She has attended 91% of her online robot classes and has even asked for more. There are plans to increase her sessions again soon.

