

Barnsley Assistive Technology Team

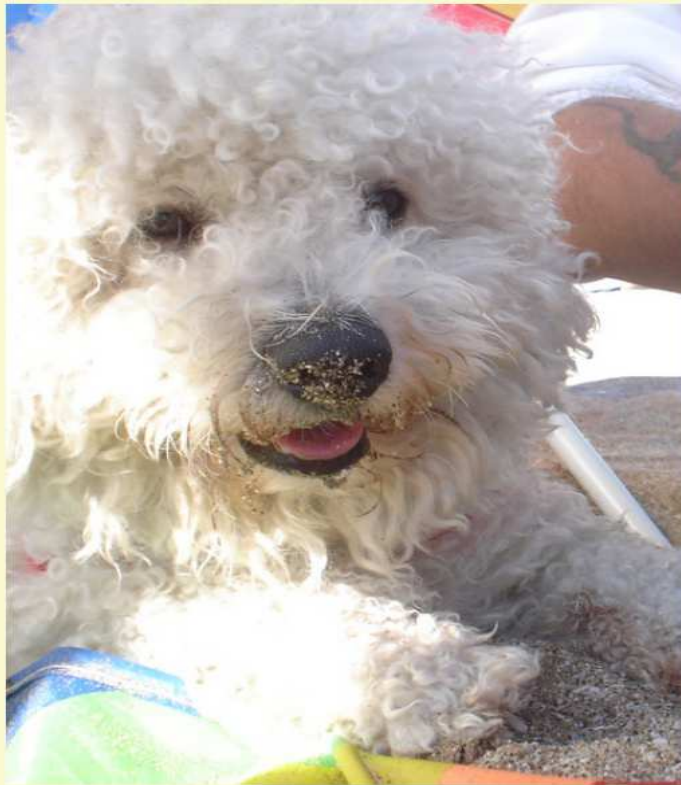
Maavis@School ::

Simon Judge

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Technology Team*

Maavis :: Demo

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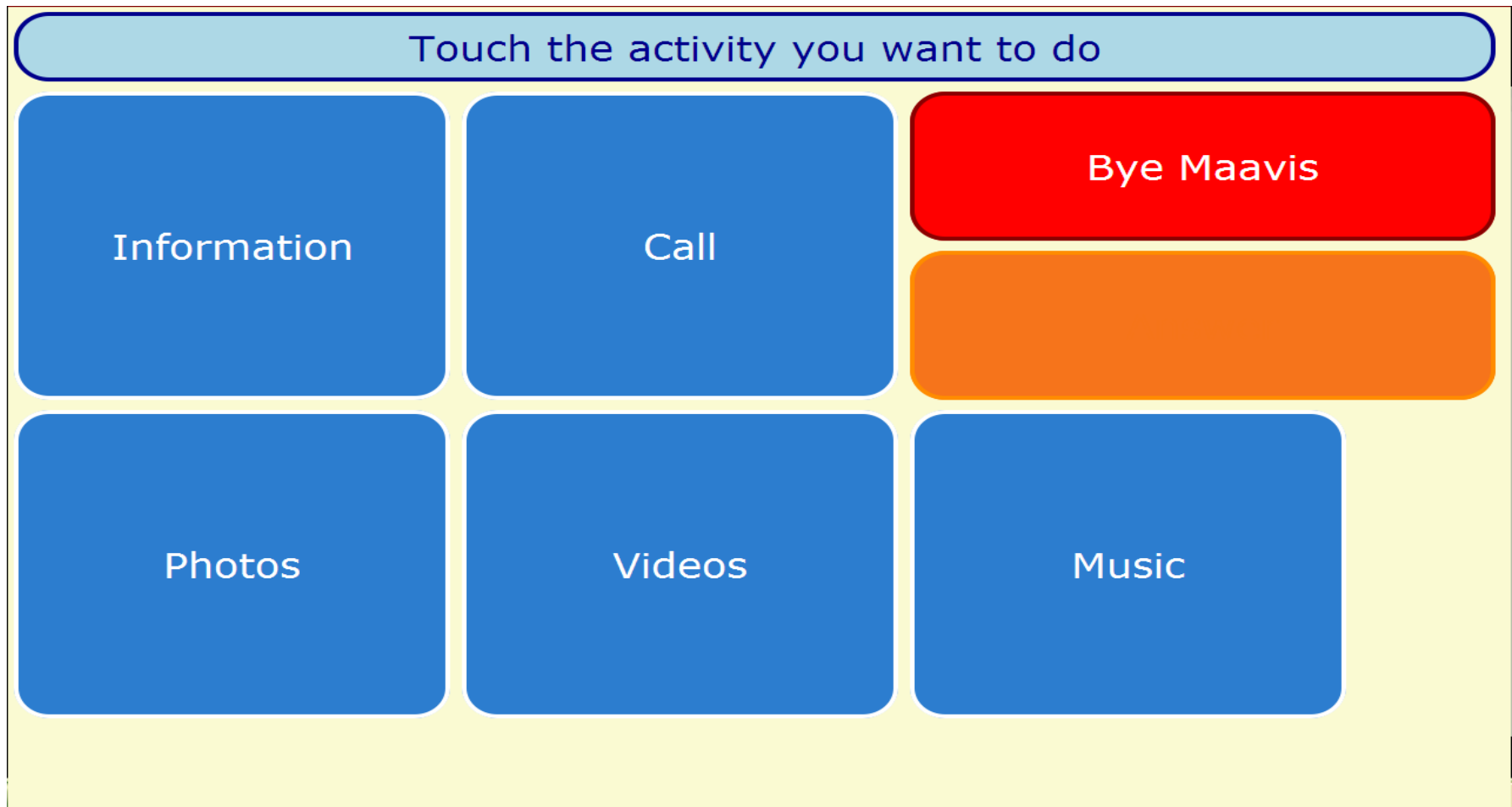
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Maavis@School :: Top level screen



Maavis@School :: Photo collection chooser

Touch the album you want to look at



Cats and Dogs



Events

Other things to do



Flowers



Places

Maavis@School :: Photo slideshow viewer

Watch Slideshow



Change Photos



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Maavis@School :: Info (web) viewer

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Maavis@School :: Objective

- *IT without knowing about IT*
 - **Moderated Access to Audio Visual Services**
 - *i.e: a simplified computer interface*
- Potential population excluded from the benefits of information technology:
 - People with dementia; older people; children with special educational needs.

Maavis@School :: Background

- Maavis emerged from a previous small project
 - provision of IT within residential care homes
 - Sheffield's largest residential care home
 - small scoping project in school
 - research: usability study and benefits

- Design challenge :
 - create more intuitive access to IT services
- Research challenge:
 - can we show a benefit to use of this technology?

Maavis@School :: Development Strategy

- *IT without knowing about IT*
- **Moderated Access to Audio Visual Services**
- *i.e: a simplified computer interface*
- A simplified interface – simple?
- What development strategy?

Other 'simplified interfaces'



Maavis@School Development Options

1. Develop operating system variant
2. Standalone Application
3. Web framework plugin

Develop operating system variant

- + Fully integrated into operating system so can easily run other processes
- Requires existing operating system to be replaced or run as dual.
- Deployment likely to be tied to hardware

Maavis@School Development Options :: Standalone Application

+ Deployment
potentially simple

- A lot of development will be in making existing services (e.g. web browsing)
- Not easily extensible as not based on existing framework

Maavis@School Development Options :: Web Framework Plugin

- + Benefit from all services provided through browser
- + Easily extensible:: plugins
- + Based on open standards
- + Development can concentrate on novel interface
- + Potential to make simple remote configuration, through web service
- Deployment may require a number of steps
- Access to other processes may be challenging and platform specific

Maavis -> Maavis@School

- Schools for Special Educational Needs
- Pupils with mild-moderate-severe learning disabilities
- 'Typically' not access computer facilities independently

Maavis@School :: Study

- Small study
 - 3 special schools in S Yorkshire, term long trial
- user requirements scoping exercise
 - software development
- Trial:
 - Provision of system to children meeting recruitment criteria in 3 special schools

Maavis@School :: User Requirements & Implementation

- Features of Maavis
- New features specific to SEN
 - Switch access with scanning
 - Simple Log-in pages

- Measuring impact of provision (and improved independent access to IT)
 - Qualitative data from teachers, students
 - Qualitative data from analysis of video evidence
 - Quantitative data from pre&post intervention assessments

Maavis@School :: Summary

- Maavis is designed to simplify access to IT
- Potential across a number of applications
- Small study looking at benefits within special schools
- Unique and flexible architecture and technology
- Ripe for further potential
- Open Source

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