

Presenting Non Visual Desktop Access laptops to Hanoians

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British Council Vietnam on September 25 presented laptops to Australian Charity for the [Children](#) of Vietnam (ACCV), thus supporting the IT education for blind students. The laptops will be installed with NVDA (Non Visual Desktop Access), a software programme for blind people to train the underprivileged young blinds in ACCV with some basic IT skills with the hope that those skills could help the visually impaired students to broaden their horizons, and [improve](#) the employment and education [opportunities](#).

“There are so many advantages for the young blind people if they can access and operate computers. On a personal level, they are able to communicate with each other, they can access music, [books](#), many different types of interesting”, said Ms Alison Vidotto, ACCV [President](#).

Thanks to these new computers, blind students will be able to research materials that can help with their education, books that are available online but unavailable in Braille here in Vietnam, free online course.

The trainers of the IT classes are Dat and Hong, both are young blind, and just finished the course in Australia majoring in advanced Braille and IT for the blind. Hong works as a massage therapist and [studies](#) at Nguyen Van To high school but she dreams to be a lawyer. While Dat wishes to be an IT teacher. Both were blind at their teenage in accidents and used to think their lives had been closed. Things changed when they join English language and IT classes for the blind.



Photo: [Trang Vu](#)

“I was surprised at the lives of the blind in Australia, which is so different from Vietnam. I could not believe that the blind also have such normal life with happy family, stable [job](#) and enjoy their life always. I really admire them”, Hong shared.

IT does not only give blind people more [opportunity](#) to have a better job but also help them know more about the world and the surrounding community. They can read newspaper, listen to music, send e-mail or even chat with friends on [Facebook](#).

Chris Brown, Country Director of British Council Vietnam, stressed: “We are all delighted to join hands with ACCV, bringing an opportunity for visually impaired people to learn IT skills which could help them for further education and [future](#) career prospect. This initiative has become an important part of our commitment to promote diversity and equal opportunities in this special year, when we celebrate [20 years](#) working in Vietnam”.

This donation is another support for the young blinds in ACCV, following other frequent supports of British Council with the first English language club for visually impaired students in Hanoi. The club members could learn English in the spacious classrooms of the British Council with qualified guest speakers from British Council./.

