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Guild Gallery February 2024

Dear Julie-Ann,

The Dyslexia Guild Online Conference 2024

Save the date of **Wednesday the 3rd of July 2024** for our Dyslexia Guild online conference.

Topics include*:

- Adults with Dyslexia and English as an Additional Language
- Supporting Dyscalculia and numeracy difficulties in the classroom
- The RE-STAR programme - regulating emotions, strengthening adolescent resilience
- Cognitive and Emotional Strategies for Students with Dyslexia

[Find Out More](#)

We do hope you will join us and help celebrate the 30 year anniversary of The Dyslexia Guild.

Guild 30th Anniversary Celebrations



This year we are celebrating 30 years of the Dyslexia Guild! Jan Beechey, Guild librarian, has been taking a look back at the guild's history in the context of dyslexia support in the nineties when it was founded, as well as compiling some notable stats about our professional membership body.

Did you know, for example, that:

- The Dyslexia Guild's library, *The National Dyslexia Resource Centre*, was one of the first libraries dedicated to literacy difficulties to open in the UK?
- Over the past five years, 2,403 books have been borrowed (enough to stretch the length of almost five premier-league football pitches) and 97,063 e-journals have been accessed (roughly one every 15 minutes!)
- The guild has one of the fastest turnaround times for APCs - often within two to six weeks

[Click here](#) to read the full article, including a message from Head of the Guild, Dr Anna Smith to all members.

News from Dyslexia Action Training



Training and Professional Development

NEW for 2024! We are launching two new Level 7 Maths modules!

Delivered in partnership with our sister company Real Training, we have created two new Level 7 Maths modules, which can be studied individually, or combined into a [Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching for Maths-related Difficulties](#). Through these modules, you'll learn the characteristics of a good mathematician, factors affecting typical and atypical development of maths skills, how to evaluate maths teaching methods and learn how to individualise the maths learning process for learners with different requirements.

The first module ([Mathematical Understanding and Teaching Methods - Underpinning Theory](#)) will commence in May 2024 and the second module ([Maths Teaching and Dynamic Assessment](#)) will

commence in September 2024.

Find Out More

Have you recently gained or are you due to renew your Assessment Practicing Certificate (APC) with the Guild or another issuing body?

If you recently gained or are planning to renew your APC, you will need to undertake regular and appropriate Continuing Professional Development (CPD) as outlined by SASC over the life of the APC (3 years) totalling 30 hours. Dyslexia Action and Real Training offer SASC Authorised courses:

Dyslexia Action - [Applying for and Renewing an Assessment Practising Certificate – Online Course](#), next course starts 13 March, £195+VAT for Guild members, worth 5 SASC accredited hours.

Real Training - [Free Access Arrangements Update Course online](#), rolling course available all year, 3 SASC accredited hours.

Real Training - [Access Arrangements Course \(AAC\) online or intensive](#) (next intensive course is 3 May 2024), £880+VAT, 3 SASC accredited hours.

Read more

Prisoner education to become primary focus

The chief inspector of prisons in England and Wales, Mr Taylor, has said education, training and rehabilitation need to become the primary focus of jails to reduce reoffending. The government says its new Prisoner Education Service will improve outcomes for those being released from custody.

But Mr Taylor suggested that jails were failing to reduce the risk of prisoners reoffending, and that many inmates were failing to learn to read.

Others, he said, were taking part in courses which would not help them get jobs in future. [Read more here.](#)



If you work with Adult learners, see our [Supporting Adults programme here](#). Our next cohort starts 13 March 2024.

Maths down, English up

The pass rate for GCSE mathematics resits in England has fallen, after more students had to take their exams again.

November's exam results show 22.9% of maths entries were marked at a grade 4, a standard pass, or above, down from 24.9% in 2022 and 26.9% in 2019.

However, the pass rate for GCSE English resits rose to 40.3% - up from 38% and 32.3% respectively.

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Under-18s in England must retake GCSE English and maths if they did not get at least a grade 4. [Find out more here.](#)

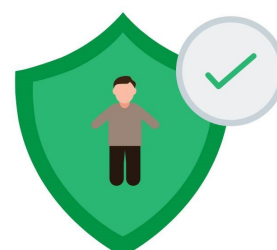
NEW for 2024! We are launching two new Level 7 Maths modules. [Find out more here](#) about our Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching for Maths-related Difficulties.

7 key safeguarding concerns for schools right now - tes

Safeguarding issues are rarely standalone events and, with countless opportunities for perpetrators to come into contact with children and young people, it's crucial that all staff are kept up to date. Download the tes free guide to ensure that all your staff have the essential information they need to protect all your students.

Key topics covered:

- The importance of recognising abuse
- Child sexual abuse material (CSAM)
- Child-on-child sexual violence and harassment
- Extremism and radicalisation
- Domestic abuse
- Adverse childhood experiences
- Trauma-informed practice
- Mental health



[Find out more](#)

Would you like to develop your understanding of social, emotional and mental health needs?

Our sister company, Real Training, offers a [Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs](#) module that enables you to bring your practice up-to-date and enhance your professional development as a reflective, research-led practitioner.

New guide to help education professionals to make best use of research evidence

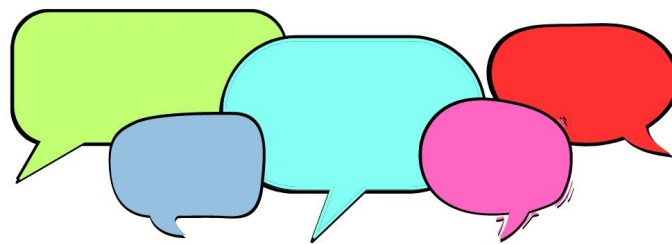
[Using research evidence](#): a concise guide gives an overview of different types of education evidence, what they can be used for, and what their limitations might be. It's designed to help you make sense and best use of the wide range of education research available. Find out more from the [Education Endowment Foundation here](#).

Interested in carrying out your own research? If you've completed previous studies, you may be eligible to conduct your own action research in Real Training's [Enquiry-based Practice](#) module.

How are you celebrating Children's Mental Health Week?

Children's Mental Health Week

5-11 February 2024



Your Voice Matters!

This year, Children's Mental Health Week runs 5-11 February. It was set up in 2015 by the children's mental health charity Place2Be and shines a spotlight on the importance of children and young people's mental health. The theme of this year's awareness week is **My Voice Matters**. Visit childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk to access resources for teachers, families and carers.

Interested in how relationships and connections can have an impact on pupils with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH)? Then why not take a look at our CPD unit: The Emotionally Connected Classroom. This short, online Level 5 course will provide an understanding of the impact of emotions on the thinking brain and its implications for learning. It provides an introduction to key elements of current research in this area, alongside tools and strategies that can be utilised to develop connectedness and relationships. Our next cohort starts 13 March 2024.

[Explore The Emotionally Connected Classroom](#)

Specialist Teacher Training Programmes: Back to the Future in Literacy Development

Did you know that you may be able to upgrade the qualifications you hold with Dyslexia Action training to the full [L5 Diploma in Specialist Teaching for Literacy-Related Difficulties \(DIST\)](#)?

Achieving the full Diploma will allow you to further enhance your knowledge and skills working with students with literacy-related difficulties. You'll learn how to use the Dyslexia Action Literacy Programme (DALP) to create dynamic learning pathways for each learner's literacy profile through individual placement identification. We recently re-published an article about the DALP Programme 'Back to the Future in Literacy Development' you can read it [here](#). Our next cohort starts 19 March 2024.

Would you credit it?

We are often asked to describe how specialist teaching and assessment qualifications differ. There are three important criteria that facilitate this understanding, learning level and level descriptors, and credit, all of which underpin our nationally recognised qualification frameworks.

We recently re-published an article about this.



[Read Full Article](#)

Update from the Dyslexia Action Shop

UK standardised test is newly approved by SASC

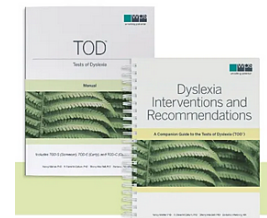
The [*Reynolds Intellectual Assessment Scales, Second Edition*](#) (RIAS-2) is now approved by [SASC](#)!

The RIAS2 can be used to diagnose specific disorders, such as intellectual disabilities or learning disabilities, and can be used as a way to determine educational placement. This test can be used as a stand-alone intellectual assessment or as part of a larger battery of assessments, making a useful product to have.

You can find out more information about the approval on [their website](#), and if you'd like to purchase a copy for your use or within your setting, [check it out here](#)!

Have you ordered your Test of Dyslexia?

Although not yet approved by STEC, The Tests of Dyslexia (TOD) is the first comprehensive assessment of dyslexia, eliminating the need to use tests from different assessments. Linking dyslexia assessment to targeted interventions has never been more efficient and effective!



Find out more [here](#)

IDS-2: Now a BPS-registered test

This global cognitive assessment of the 'whole child' is unparalleled in its ability to identify their knowledge, strengths, and developmental needs in one complete picture.

Find out more [here](#).

Software tools to support writing for Windows, iPads and Chromebooks

Call Scotland has a blog that highlights universal technology that can be used to support writing across the three most popular devices: Windows, iPads and Chromebooks. [Read more here](#).

Why not study with us?

Whether you are supporting children in the classroom or adults in education, we have CPD units that can enhance your knowledge and skills to help with writing difficulties or with technology to support all aspects of literacy:

[Developing Literacy Skills with Assistive Technology](#)

[Developing Writing Skills in Adults with Dyslexia](#)

[Developing Writing Skills in Learners with Dyslexia](#)

Debates in Parliament

On Thursday 11 January, Sir David Davis MP led a Backbench Business debate in Parliament on SEND provision and funding. Along with other MPs, he spoke about the many people who have signed petitions on the issue. He also quoted those who had shared their experiences to help inform previous debates on SEND provision and funding.

Watch or read the debate – and see the Government's response – on [SEND provision and funding](#)

What are Backbench Business debates?

Backbench Business debates give backbenchers (MPs who aren't ministers or shadow ministers) an opportunity to secure a debate on a topic of their choice, either in the main House of Commons Chamber or Westminster Hall, the second chamber of the House of Commons.



MPs can make a request for a debate to the Backbench Business Committee, who hears requests and decides which debates to schedule.

Backbench debates can either be general debates (which do not end in a vote) or be on a substantive motion (which calls for an action and can end in a vote). This debate was a debate on a substantive motion.

Interactive explainer: [Backbench Business debates](#)

Get involved in the work of the UK Parliament

[Sign up to the Your UK Parliament newsletter](#) for the latest information on how to get involved and make a difference.

National Schools Partnership - Be Water Smart with Affinity Water

Explore sustainability, natural resources and local wildlife with your 7-11-year-olds, and learn how to save water at home and at school.

This ready-to-use assembly, lesson plan and fun competition have been specifically designed for schools in [Affinity Water's supply area](#). Linked to geography, science and PSHE, the free resources encourage pupils to think about local issues and explore solutions to improve sustainability where they live.



Then, pupils can put their creativity to the test by creating their own posters to encourage their community to save water. The winner's design will be printed on a bus and on digital posters, and the winning school will receive a new garden that supports water saving worth up to £5,000!

Enter by Friday, 16 February 2024!

[Find Out More](#)

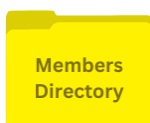
For more learning about sustainability resources, [BBC Bitesize has more here](#).



[Visit our website for more details](#)



[Become a Member today.](#)



[See our Professional Directory](#)



[Visit the Dyslexia Action Shop](#)



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