



LITERACY SPECIALISTS • TEACHERS • ASSESSORS

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Speak to us on 01784-222342



Guild Gallery February 2022

Dear Fred,

Welcome to the February issue!

We are so looking forward to welcoming you to our Annual Guild Conference on Friday 8 July 2022 at the University of Bath.

It has been so long since we have all had the opportunity to meet face to face and network with all you fabulous people. We will be able to share further joining details with you before the end of February.

Confirmed speakers are Dr Valerie Muter, Dr Cathy Manning, Professor Kiki Messiou, Professor Chris

Budd OBE and Dr Richard Lewis. Topics include playful maths, mental wellbeing, literacy difficulties, inclusion, and autism.

Please be assured we will email you when booking details are released but in the meantime please keep an eye on [our Dyslexia Guild website](#).

Kind regards,
Jan Beechey
The Dyslexia Guild

Training courses

Exciting news about our newly validated Postgraduate Programme!



We are delighted to announce the launch of our validated Master of Education Professional Practice in Dyslexia and Literacy and its related programmes.

This online distance learning programme was developed, and is delivered and assessed, by Dyslexia Action Training.

The programmes are awarded and quality assured by Middlesex University. The Postgraduate Certificate and Diploma programmes are also recognised by several professional SpLD membership bodies for accredited specialist teacher/practitioner/assessor status (subject to approval)

Our next cohort starts in April 2022. Read more [here](#).

Are you a teaching assistant, learning support assistant or further/higher education support tutor?



Our Level 4 and 5 Continuing Professional Development Certificates may be of interest to you. The certificates which can be booked as six individual units or two (3 unit) awards cover a variety of topics

including [supporting literacy in learners](#), [supporting adults with dyslexia and co-occurring difficulties](#) and [supporting international learners](#).

Our next cohort starts on 16 March. Thereafter cohorts run in May and July, for further details click on the links above.

Are you looking to gain, or renew an Assessment Practising Certificate (APC)?

Dyslexia Action offers an online course for those looking to renew or gain an APC. This course has been specifically designed to update specialist teacher-assessors on current SASC requirements for dyslexia/SpLD report writing and to meet APC application or renewal criteria. The course meets SASC approved CPD hours.

Our trainers are experienced, qualified specialists in diagnostic assessment report writing and assessment testing for dyslexia/SpLD working to the SpLD Assessment Standards Committee.

[Click here](#) for more information on the course which runs in March, May and July.

[Click here](#) to find out more information about gaining or renewing an APC with the Dyslexia Guild.

Mentoring for APC assessors

Dyslexia Guild offers a Mentoring Service for APC assessors who would like to review essential elements of their professional practice. Mentoring is semi-structured professional guidance where an experienced practitioner shares their professional knowledge, skills and experience to assist others to progress in their own practice. Mentors help as the need arises within agreed boundaries.

We can arrange a meeting with a suitable APC mentor which will be conducted via an online meeting or by telephone. The minimum time you can book for a meeting is 30 minutes and the maximum time is one hour. If you are interested please email apc@dyslexiaaction.org.uk

UK Children's Mental Health Week - Growing Together



This week is Children's Mental Health Week. Place2Be launched the first-ever Children's Mental Health Week in 2015 to shine a spotlight on the importance of children and young people's mental health. For 2022, the theme is Growing Together. Having strong mental health leadership, the theoretical understanding and practical skills to make a positive difference to young people with mental health challenges have become more vital than ever. Fortunately, these topics and more are covered in our

suite of mental health-related courses across [Dyslexia Action's Level 5 Online Course: The Emotionally Connected Classroom](#) and [Real Training Senior Mental Lead Courses](#).

Other news

Education Endowment Fund (EEF) commission research

Over the last ten years, the EEF has funded over 150 projects and identified approaches and programmes that support teaching and learning. The EEF will focus its first funding round in 2022 – expected to open in February – on three priority areas:

- Cognitive Science
- Early Language
- Early Years and KS1 Maths Teaching

The EEF wants to find out more about the research questions that schools, researchers and others working in education would find it most valuable to answer.

If you would be interested in sharing your views, you can answer a short survey on each of the three priority themes. Complete the survey [here](#).

Updated EEF report - Improving Literacy in Key Stage 2

The Education Endowment Fund (EEF) newly updated guidance report – “Improving Literacy in Key Stage 2” – is complete with brand new visual models and exemplification for teachers and school leaders looking to maximise the impact of literacy provision in their setting.

The recommendations include using high-quality structured interventions to help pupils who are struggling with their literacy. Read more [here](#).

New research on the use of phonics in schools



Professor Alice Bradbury and Professor Dominic Wyse, have published a paper to show the need for [changes to the teaching of reading and to national curriculum policy on the teaching of reading](#).

In response to the research findings, an open letter has been sent to the Education Secretary, Nadhim Zahawi, calling for urgent changes to be made to how children are taught to read. The letter has been signed by over 250 people working in children's education, including primary school headteachers, academics and children's author Michael Rosen.

Also, Professor Tina Bruce responds to UCL's Institute of Education's new research on the use of phonics in schools on behalf of the Froebel Trust. The Froebel Trust supports this call for reform and a change to

government policy. Read more [here](#).

Before dismissing the use of systematic phonics in classrooms, the research needs further analysis, warns Professor Julia Carroll. Read more [here](#).

Talk to your baby

COSMO is a collaboration between the Sutton Trust, the UCL Centre for Education Policy and Equalising Opportunities (CEPEO) and the Centre for Longitudinal Studies, with fieldwork led by Kantar Public. The National Literacy Trust conference in March 2022 focuses on early language development. Find out more [here](#).

Blurred

Blurred is a short video by Bronwen Rattie that reminds us how important it is to support the self-esteem of those with dyslexia. Please watch [here](#).

Borrow free from Eurotoolbox

If you are a teacher, you can borrow a box of 60 books all of which represent exceptional literature in their original language. This year, the selection is aiming to raise awareness and understanding of the importance of human rights, inclusion and representation in literature.



Collections include English, French, German, Italian, Polish, Portuguese and Spanish. Find out more [here](#).

Immersive Reader

Learn more about the research behind [Immersive Reader](#), one of Microsoft's Learning Tools for inclusive classrooms. You can find special education and accessibility information topics [here](#).

A new open access article on EHCPs

Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) were introduced in 2014 to improve provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Some service users have found this change positive, but there is also dissatisfaction among service users with the EHCP process. This was captured in the recent Education Select Committee report, which took evidence from a range of stakeholders, representatives and service users examining the context, support and barriers associated with SEND (House of Commons, 2019). This review identifies and appraises research concerning service users' experience of the EHCP process, to establish key barriers to improving SEND provision. Read more here:

[*Identifying service users' experience of the education, health and care plan process*](#)

Developmental Language Disorder resources



Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) is a diagnosis given to children and young people who have life-long difficulties with language that are not associated with other biomedical conditions, such as cerebral palsy, or autistic spectrum disorders. The ICAN charity has free resources about what DLD is and how you can support children in your classroom. Developed in partnership with the National Association for Special Educational Needs (nasen) and Whole School SEND, and funded by the Department of Education, their practical guide will give teachers and other school-based professionals guidance on how to identify and support children with DLD in mainstream primary and secondary schools. Find out more [here](#).

Behind the Cover audiobook club

Take a look at The National Literacy Trust's Behind the Cover audiobook club for all women and non-binary readers aged 16 and over. The audiobook club offers diverse texts, with chosen titles celebrating books with women at the centre of the story. Read more [here](#).

National Education Show - Cardiff

The National Education show is the leading education event in Wales providing opportunities and new ways to improve and raise standards, enhance learning experiences and support learners. You can attend various events in October 2022, find out more [here](#).

Dyslexia screening in primary schools



Mat Hancock called for universal dyslexia screening at primary schools to prevent more pupils "slipping through the cracks". Liz Hawker at Teachwire is sceptical, "Screening results cannot be taken as a diagnosis and only full psychometric assessment can secure access arrangements for exams, etc. The use of universal screening without sufficient follow up could lead to confusion for pupils and families, and an ineffectual, time-consuming process for schools, further compounding teacher and pupil stress. Read more [here](#).

Jay Blades: Learning to Read at 51

Following Jay over six months of learning, this film goes behind closed doors to see how he organizes his upholstery business without the written word, manages on The Repair Shop without scripts and struggles each day with his vowels and consonants as he tries to learn phonics. If you missed the programme yesterday, it is now available to watch on BBC iPlayer [here](#).



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Visit [our website](#) to see the latest information regarding membership benefits, and how to access the Guild member's library and directory.

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