



LITERACY SPECIALISTS • TEACHERS • ASSESSORS

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Speak to us on 01784-222342



Guild Gallery

May 2022

Dear Guild member,

Welcome to the May issue!

Did you know that Dyslexia Action is celebrating their 50-year anniversary this year?

If you have not yet booked your place for [The Dyslexia Guild Annual Summer Guild Conference](#) which will be held on **Friday 8 July 2022** at the University of Bath please do so as soon as possible, as bookings will close around the 17 June. Guild members enjoy a preferential rate so come and join in the celebrations with us! The conference provides, as always, a great opportunity to meet and network with dyslexia/SpLD specialists, it enables practitioners to hear expert views and examine current topical issues relating to literacy and dyslexia/SpLD in a warm and vibrant conference setting. You can expect a friendly welcome from our friendly Dyslexia Guild and Dyslexia Action teams, meet researchers and other professionals working in the sector, browse our Dyslexia Action Shop and a selection of other exhibitors, and enjoy a networking lunch.

Confirmed speakers are Dr Valerie Muter, Dr Catherine Manning, Professor Kiki Messiou, Professor Chris Budd OBE. Topics include playful maths, mental wellbeing, literacy difficulties, inclusion, and autism.

Friday 8 July - Day Delegate

Includes Friday Conference only, refreshments and lunch.

Guild Members £95+VAT (£114 incs. VAT)

Non-Guild Members £145+VAT (£174 incs. VAT)

Other booking options include: Thursday 7 July and Friday 8 July

Includes evening (networking) two course buffet dinner, small double ensuite accommodation Thursday evening (Woodlands Court), breakfast, conference, lunch and refreshments Friday.

For a detailed brochure and to book your place click [here](#)

Don't forget to log into your Guild member area as we often publish vacancies and research projects under the Latest News section. If you cannot remember how to log in, [E-mail us](#)

Dyslexia Action Celebrate 50 years of Training!



Training and Professional Development

As well as joining us at the conference to celebrate, we hope you will read about our history in the Spring issue of Dyslexia Review. [Dyslexia Action courses](#) have always been innovative and meet the highest standards. We have a great deal of experience and passionately care about supporting our students during their studies, and we carry on that support throughout your professional career within membership of The Dyslexia Guild.

With our sister company, [Real Training](#), we offer over 75 different courses and qualifications, so you have a wide range of topics to choose from. Our qualifications are validated by [Middlesex University](#), our assessment units by the [SpLD Assessment Standards Committee \(SASC\)](#), and our Continuing Professional Development (CPD) units by the [CPD Standards Office](#), so you can rely on us for quality assurance. Although we draw on our illustrious history, we do not rest on our laurels and continue to develop and improve our services to you.

What is CPD?



Continuing professional development (CPD) is the maintenance and development of the knowledge and skills needed to perform in a professional context. This could mean honing current skills, developing them to a new level, or it could mean learning new ones that will allow your job role to expand or prepare you for potential promotion. Undertaking CPD accredited training gives educators the opportunity to ensure their qualifications, skills

and knowledge are maintained and up to date.

Study over the Summer or at a time to suit you, and receive £12 off your booking*

Our Level 4 and 5 [Continuing Professional Development](#) (CPD) courses provide a flexible route to gaining specialist knowledge and practical skills relevant to a wide range of settings. We offer pathways through these courses to strengthen the expertise and confidence of teachers, SENCos, practitioners, teaching assistants, learning support staff, language therapists, tutors, lecturers, and those who support students with literacy difficulties, dyslexia and other specific learning. We also welcome [international](#) participants and those [working with adults](#) in further and higher education and other relevant settings.

If you would like to take advantage of studying over the school summer break at the discount rate, our next courses start on **13 July** (Book by 29 June if pay later/invoice required upfront, or book by 6 July if paying by credit/debit card at time of registration. Note that all monies must be received before the course start date).

* usual price £295+VAT, special offer price £285+VAT, discount is applied automatically when completing the registration form.

For more information or to book

Please click [here](#) for further information about our range of Level 4 and 5 courses, or if you are continuing your studies with us, click [here](#) to quick book.

Level 7 Postgraduate Courses to become SpLD Teachers/Practitioners/Assessors

Booking is now open for our next cohort starting **October 2022**.

This online distance learning programme was developed by, 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)

Read more [here](#)



SASC consultation paper on dyslexia assessment

[SASC](#) has issued a paper 'on the identification of and effective intervention for literacy difficulties in children and adults. Implications for the assessment of dyslexia'.

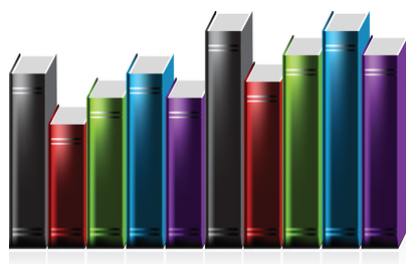
SASC invites you to give your views on this paper and they have provided a short version alongside the full paper.

From June 2022, SASC will be considering changes to guidance regarding the assessment of dyslexia. It will carry out an impact analysis on the potential effect of any proposed changes and recommendations, and their potential effect on a range of stakeholders. The paper will also be used as a basis for a SASC response to the March 2022 HM Government SEND Review Green Paper, 'Right Support, Right Place, Right Time.'

In the meantime, SASC invites all interested individuals and organisations to respond to this consultation paper via the online survey. The consultation provides an opportunity to reflect on practice, discuss the issues and ideas covered in this paper and to explore what potential changes to working and assessment practices might be beneficial and why. The deadline for responses is **Friday 6th May 2022**.

[Find the paper and the survey here](#)

More books on the banned lists in USA



New examples of book banning are being reported in the United States after the American Library Association recorded unprecedented levels of censorship last year. A library in Mississippi told newspapers that the city Mayor had told them to remove Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ+) books or \$110,000 funding would be withheld.

In Tennessee, a school board banned the Pulitzer prize-winning graphic novel, *Maus: A Survivor's Tale*. This graphic novel by New Yorker Art Spiegelman, uses hand-drawn illustrations of mice and cats to depict how the author's parents survived Auschwitz during the Holocaust. You can [read more about the controversy here](#)

Student Minds Support

Online content and learning platform [Kortext](#) has joined forces with mental health charity [Student Minds](#) to deliver a range of resources to support students. The pandemic has increased stress on students, with levels of anxiety, feelings of loneliness and isolation, and depression all cited in research carried out by the Office for Students [National Student Survey](#).



Mental Health Awareness week: 9-15 May 2022

This years' topic is loneliness. The great challenge for mainstream education is to enhance social inclusion and provision for children and young people whilst also improving their mental and emotional health.

[Real Training's modules](#) look at the psychological underpinnings – the perspectives that you will need to understand – which will enable you to grasp why children behave in the way that they do. Most importantly, they will show you what you can do to safeguard inclusion.

Many people are wary of children with behavioural difficulties because, emotionally, they are the hardest to manage and sustain. Our modules enable you to increase your knowledge base around this catchment and allow you to understand why children behave in the way that they do. If you are in a leadership role, our [Senior Mental Health Leadership](#) courses

COBIS 40th Annual Conference **Connect, Reflect, and Explore**



7-9 May 2022, Park Plaza Westminster Bridge, London, UK

Why not come and meet [Real Training](#) to talk about your career development in the exhibition area? We would love to [see you there](#)

British Sign Language (BSL) will gain formal recognition under legislation set to be passed by MPs

The bill, which sailed through its first hurdle in the Commons in January, will require public bodies to promote the language.

It will also recognise BSL as a language in its own right in England, Wales and Scotland.

The final scrutiny stage in the Commons will take place later, after which the bill will go to the House of Lords.

The legislation, introduced by Labour MP Rosie Cooper, has been backed by the government.

Up to 250,000 people in the UK use some BSL on a daily basis, according to the British Deaf Association.

[Read more here.](#)



Online Harms Bill

This bill, which also seeks to tackle access to harmful material online, has been introduced to parliament. It would give regulator Ofcom the power to fine firms or block access to sites that fail to comply with the new rules.

However, Labour says delays to the bill mean disinformation in the UK has increased.

The bill - originally announced in 2019 - covers a wide array of topics relating to harmful material online. [Find out more here.](#)

Of the 575 chemistry professors in the UK, just one is black

In the 15 years Robert Mokaya has been a professor at Nottingham university, he has had all his applications for funding for research projects turned down by Britain's main chemistry funding body, now called the UK

Research and Innovation agency.

Robert is currently a pro-vice-chancellor at Nottingham university and a trustee of the **Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC)**.

The RSC has published an investigation which shows that racism is "pervasive" in the field. The report finds that it is "hard to challenge" and marginalisation of minorities has become "normalised" in universities and industry.

The RSC report also shows that ethnic minority students are interested in studying chemistry at university, but they are put off by what they perceive to be an unwelcoming atmosphere of academic research. This is especially true of black students and researchers.

Official figures show that at undergraduate level 4.9% of students studying chemistry-related subjects identify as black, significantly higher than the national 3.0% of the UK population. But most choose not to enter research. Those who do fall away at every stage of the career ladder: 1.4% of postgraduate chemistry researchers identify as black, 1% of lecturers and 0% of professors.

"I don't exist!" laughs Robert.

There are no black professors in the official statistics because the number 1 is rounded down to zero for accounting purposes.

[Read more here.](#)

Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and alternative provision (AP)

The Government has launched a public consultation on major changes it wants to make to the special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and alternative provision (AP) system in England.

It wants to hear from:

- Children and young people
- Parents and carers
- People who work in the SEND sector
- Local and national system leaders

[Find out](#) more about the consultation and share your views:

You can respond until 11.45pm on Friday 1 July 2022.

What changes is the Government planning to make?

The Government says that it plans to create a "single, national SEND and alternative provision (AP) system that will introduce new standards in the quality of support to give to children across education, health and care".

The proposed changes include:

- Improving workforce training through the introduction of a new SENCo (Special Education Needs Coordinator) NPQ for school SENCos
- Increasing the number of staff with level 3 qualifications in early years settings
- A new legal requirement for councils to introduce 'local inclusion plans' that set out responsibility for young people with SEND among local services

The Government has announced additional funding to implement these proposals.

[Find out more](#) about the changes the Government is proposing:

[Read a summary](#) of the Government's SEND review:

MPs questions Secretary of State for Education about the review

On Tuesday 29 March, the government Minister responsible for education, Nadhim Zahawi MP, made a statement to the House of Commons about the review and consultation, and was questioned about this by MPs.

[Read what he said](#) and how he was questioned by MPs.

The **white paper** issued in March alongside the green paper described above, outlines how the Government's future policies aim to adapt the school system to allow every child to 'receive the right support, in the right place, at the right time'. In order to achieve this target, the Government is providing a 'Parent Pledge' so that where children are dropping behind in English or maths, schools will be expected to provide evidence-based support through a range of strategies.

Other policies include changes in minimum school week hours, increases in Ofsted inspections, a move towards a full multi-academy trust (MAT) system, incentives for teachers in the form of salaries and training and the creation of Mental Health Support Teams.

Further details of the paper can be found using the [link](#).



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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.

**Dyslexia
Action**

Training and Professional Development

Visit [Dyslexia Action Training](#) for CPD or Professional Programme Courses.

**Dyslexia
Action
Shop**

Receive 10% discount at The [Dyslexia Action Shop](#).
*Conditions apply.

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