



LITERACY SPECIALISTS • TEACHERS • ASSESSORS

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Speak to us on 01784-222342



Guild Gallery - September 2020

Dear Guild members,

Moving out of lockdown? We provided you with webinars and also access to The Dyslexia Guild Adults Toolkit and we had many positive responses to these resources. Do not forget to access all your online resources by logging into the Guild member area. If you also want to access library services, contact library@dyslexiaaction.org.uk to set up your access to thousands of online articles and e-books as well as hard copy resources.

Audit of Study Skills Tutors and Non-Medical Helper (NMH) providers

All NMH providers are expected to ensure that NMH support workers delivering Disabled Student Allowance (DSA) funded roles have the relevant qualification and professional body membership requirements as set out by Department for Education (DfE).

From September 2020 DfE will be introducing a programme of auditing of NMH support worker qualifications. Those selected for audit will be asked to provide evidence for workers who have delivered DSA-funded NMH roles in the 12 months prior to the audit. Details of the audit can be found [here](#).

Those Guild members with ADG FE/HE grades are subject to Band 4 Specialist one-to-one Study Skills and Strategy Support – Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD) and details can be found [here](#).

Seeking ADG FE/HE provisional membership?

The Dyslexia Guild has a clearly defined membership grade for Study Skills Support Tutors which is Associate Member Further and Higher Education (ADG FE/HE).

Applicants should be working towards gaining the Level 5 Certificate in Supporting Adults within a specified time period. This qualification comprises 6 units each of 30 hours of study/2 Awards. In the first instance, ADG FE/HE provisional applicants may be asked to complete at least 3 units of this qualification before membership is granted and will then be expected to complete the remaining 3 units within the next two years.

Courses run in September, November, January, March, May and July.

Access Arrangements Update

We are very pleased to let you know that the 2020/21 Access Arrangements Update course - free of charge with Real Training - is now complete and free for you to access. As a reminder, those registering for the free Access Arrangements Update will:

- Gain 3 SASC-accredited Continuing Professional Development (CPD) hours upon completion
- Be fully up to date with the new Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) guidelines and requirements for the academic year 2020/21
- Have access to a popular forum to ask questions of both peers and tutors about specific challenges
- Be able to work through the course in their own time, as it is fully online and set out in a series of strands
- Have access to a certificate of completion

If you have any colleagues that you think would benefit from this update, please do send them the link so they can also register for free [here](#).

Training Courses



CPD short online courses Dyslexia and Literacy - September 2020

Our next [Level 4 and 5 CPD units](#) and [CPD units for qualified SpLD professionals*](#) start on 16 September 2020. We have extended applications until 5pm on Monday 14 September for registrations that can be paid online with a debit/credit card only.

Bookings are also open for these units in November, January, March, May and July.

*Don't forget Guild members get discounts on these CPD units.

NEW - CPD short online courses - Beyond Dyslexia and Literacy

We will shortly be launching a range of new CPD courses, the first course to launch is 'the relating classroom' which is planned to run in November 2020. Other units to follow in 2021 include 'Nurturing pupils resilience' and 'embracing sadness'. We will update you as soon as we have further information available. If you would like to receive details of these courses when released please [email us](#).

Professional Postgraduate Programme

Have you completed a Level 5 SpLD Teaching Diploma or Level 7 SpLD Teaching Certificate (60 credits)? Have you considered upgrading your qualification to become a [full assessor](#) or to complete the [MEd Professional Practice in Dyslexia and Literacy](#)? Our next cohort starts in January 2021 (apply no later than November 2020 through the links above).

The Level 5 Diploma in Strategic Teaching Support for Dyslexia and Literacy

As an alternative to studying at Level 7 we now offer a Level 5 Diploma Fast Track route and also continue to offer our pathways routes to gaining a Level 5 SpLD teacher/practitioner qualification. For further details [click here](#).

Resources for literacy difficulties

Driver Youth Trust has created some fabulous, downloadable and easy-to-access resources which are particularly well suited to students with literacy difficulties. You can find them [here](#).

Improving Support for Dyspraxic People

The All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Dyspraxia has launched an inquiry into the experiences of those with dyspraxia to ensure that they are better supported in society. To find out more about the inquiry [see the groups website](#).

Critical Thinking and Fake News



Sense about Science, an independent charity that champions public interest in science and evidence, have worked with young people around the UK in the design of resources and activities to enhance their information literacy. The 2018 Commission on Fake News concluded that half of teachers feel the national curriculum does not equip children with the skills they need to identify fake news and a third of teachers feel the critical thinking skills taught in schools aren't transferable to the real world. You can download their free Evidence Hunter activity pack for 11 to 14-year-olds [here](#).

Text to Speech Apps for Android phones



Call Scotland have some advice about Apps for Text to Speech for Android phones and tablets (runs on the Android operating system developed by Google and used by a variety of mobile phone and tablet manufacturers). You can find out more [here](#).

Benefits of video games for literacy



The National Literacy Trust in partnership with the Association of UK Interactive Entertainment (Ukie) and Penguin Random House Children's Publishing, has published research that found that 4 in 5 (79%) young people who play video games read materials relating to video games regularly, including in-game communications (40%), reviews and blogs (31%), books (22%) and fan fiction (19%). A third (35%) also believe that playing video games makes them better readers.

To further support young people's literacy through video games, they have launched a range of activities, challenges and resources for young people, parents and teachers to explore. Find out more [here](#).

Two Medal Winners in 2020 prestigious book awards



Lark by Anthony McGowan (Barrington Stoke) scoops the Carnegie Medal for writing, whilst Tales from the Inner City written and illustrated by Shaun Tan (Walker Books) takes the Kate Greenaway Medal for illustration.

Both books use captivating words and images to explore humankind's relationship with nature, alongside themes of survival.

The winning books were chosen by 14 volunteer Youth Librarians, from a total of 162 nominations this year, as the very best in children's writing and illustration published in the UK. The winners will each receive £500 worth of books to donate to a library of their choice, a specially commissioned golden medal and a £5,000 Colin Mears Award cash prize.

CILIP, the Chartered Institute of Librarians and Information Professionals, will celebrate the conclusion of the Shadowing Scheme by announcing the winners of the Shadowers' Choice Award – voted for and awarded by the children and young people who shadow the Medals – on 9th October 2020, during [National Libraries Week](#).

Find out more [here](#)

Period Poverty

Charities say many schools and colleges are not aware they can order free period products through a government scheme, amid concerns Covid-19 has left more pupils struggling to access and afford

tampons and pads.

Gemma Abbott, from the Free Periods group, said "many schools and students [are] still not aware" of the scheme, which aims to help prevent children in colleges, primary and secondary schools missing lessons if they don't have access to products at home.

You can find out how to take advantage of the scheme [here](#) or if you have any problems placing the order you can call PHS direct on 01827 255500

Teenagers can cash in Child Trust Funds



Children born from September 2002 were given vouchers by the government to invest for the future, with the money only accessible at the age of 18. The savings pots could now be worth more than £1,000, or more if parents added contributions. The idea was for children to have some savings at the age of 18, to assist with costs such as further education funding or living alone for the first time.

The government initially put £250 into the tax-free account during a child's first year, then added another £250 when he or she reached the age of seven. For lower-income families, the payment was £500. Parents, family and friends could also contribute to the account, up to set limits. The scheme was then scrapped entirely by the coalition government in January 2011. Child Trust Funds can be found using the Government Gateway service, which requires a login or registration. The Child Trust Fund unique reference number or national insurance number is also needed.

The Share Foundation charity runs a free finding service.

More information on Child Trust Funds is available through the government-backed Money and Pensions Service. Find out more [here](#).

Education in England Annual Report 2020



The report has highlighted some gaps in provision, demonstrating that since the new SEND Code of Practice (2015), non-statutory funded pupils, who are likely to have Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLDs) might not be included in the data and are therefore not guaranteed to have received evidence-based support which meets their needs.

It also found that disadvantaged pupils in England are 18.1 months of learning behind their peers by the time they finish their GCSEs – the same gap as five years ago.

You can read the full report [here](#).

Talented Disabled Candidates just need an even break

If you have a student or client who is searching for employment, [Evenbreak](#) is a AAA accessible specialist job board that helps disabled candidates (including people with dyslexia) find work

opportunities with employers who will value their skills. It's free to register and candidates can set up job alerts for the kind of role they are looking for.

There's also a section completely devoted to resources for candidates with information about job searching, putting together an application and interview preparation [here](#).



Resources for Candidates | Evenbreak

Finding employment can be challenging for anyone, and doubly so when faced with additional disabling barriers. We hope you will find these resources helpful.

www.evenbreak.co.uk



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



Training and Professional Development

Visit Dyslexia Action Training for CPD or Professional Programme Courses.



Receive 10% discount at the Dyslexia Action Shop.
*Conditions apply.

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