

Assistive Technology for Students with Specific Learning Disabilities - TextHELP “Read&Write Gold”

This full-day seminar will provide professional development in assistive technology software for pupils with specific learning disabilities and will explore the use of this type of software in school.

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The software used will be TextHELP Read&Write Gold” which is commonly recommended for pupils with specific learning disabilities such as dyslexia and dysgraphia. Other similar types of software will also be reviewed.

The seminar is available to both primary and post-primary teachers.

Anticipated Outcomes

Participants will:

- Understand the role of this type of assistive technology in helping pupils with specific learning disabilities such as dyslexia
- Be able to use the main features of this software
- Be able to peer-support colleagues in the use of the technology and teach pupils how to use the software as the need arises
- Be aware of the issues that can lead to the abandonment of assistive technology

Course Outline and Content

- Learn the main features of this software and gain hands-on experience and confidence in its use
- Develop the skills and knowledge to learn more about the functions of the technology independently after the course
- Explore the practicalities of managing this type of software and associated hardware, such as laptops and scanners in school
- Raise awareness of the issues that can lead to the abandonment of assistive technology

Information for Applicants

Participants will need basic computer skills such as being able to open folders and programs; file documents’ use right and left click on a mouse. Knowledge of specialist software or advanced skills is not needed.

Participants should bring a USB key if they want to take a copy of the training notes and a trial version

of the software.

Booking Details

Places are limited to 12 teachers and to one teacher per school. Participants will require permission from the Board of Management to attend. Typically, substitution for this seminar will only be allowed to classroom teachers with primary responsibility for students with a special educational need and if it is deemed absolutely essential by the Principal.

Typically substitution will only be allocated to non-substitute teachers

Payment is not available to teachers in a substitute capacity

Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

Registration: 8.45 AM

Start: 9.15 AM

Finish: 3.30 PM

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