

Section 1: Introduction to the Toolkit

Who is this toolkit for?

Literacy at Home - A Toolkit for Parents and Carers, has been developed to support the parents/carers of children and young people with literacy difficulties, or those who may be at risk of developing them, in the home setting. It provides practical advice and strategies across school phases, from the foundation stage through to the end of post primary school. Some of the resources are teacher specific however can be used by parents at home. This resource also offers guidance on how to access support in higher and further educational settings. It has been developed by the SEND Local IMPACT Team.

It complements the Literacy Inclusion Toolkit developed for Northern Ireland schools (available at [Literacy Inclusion Toolkit | SEND Plan](#)). Both resources are evidence informed and grounded on what works for children and young people in this area of support.

What do we mean when we refer to ‘literacy difficulties’ and how to support at home?

The term ‘literacy difficulties’ is an umbrella term. It includes children and young people who have difficulty with reading, writing and spelling, may experience dyslexic-type indicators, have a formal diagnosis of Dyslexia or any difficulty in literacy, which act as a barrier to accessing the curriculum and examinations. This resource is intended to support parents and carers to help with their child’s literacy by providing a range of strategies that don’t require special training.

Who can I contact for further information?

For general enquiries or to discuss your child’s literacy needs you can contact the SEND Central Helpline.

Telephone: 028 9031 7777 (Option 2)

Operating hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am – 4.30pm

When contacting SEND Central, you will be asked to provide a contact number, your child's full name and date of birth, their school's name and details of your query.

Would you like help using this resource?

The SEND Local IMPACT Team has Literacy Specialists who can be contacted using the above details to support parents and carers who would like help in using this resource. The Team is experienced in assisting parents and carers to support their child's literacy difficulties. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like support in using any aspect of this resource. A member of the Team will get back to you as soon as possible.

Further resources and information are also available via the [EA Cognition & Learning – Literacy](#) website.