



# Croft Church of England Primary School

Dyslexia: Supporting children & young  
people in the classroom

Resources and information from the 'Unlocking  
Dyslexia' Training

# Quality First Teaching

- ✓ Simplify language
- ✓ Chunk learning to make it memorable
- ✓ Provide visual supports
- ✓ Repeat, repeat, repeat for overlearning
- ✓ Give it time
- ✓ Do it differently
- ✓ Use multisensory activities for reading and spelling
- ✓ Start where the child is
- ✓ Reduce glare on whitboard by using cream, or light blue background
- ✓ Use a dyslexia friendly font such as Arial, Comic Sans, Calibri or Century Gothic as letters can appear less crowded – font size 12-14
- ✓ Simplify layout – boxes around text and break the text up
- ✓ Limit copying from the board for a pupil who finds handwriting difficult



# Literacy : Reading, Writing, Spelling

- ✓ [http://www.snip-newsletter.co.uk/pdfs/downloads/literacy\\_programme\\_1.pdf](http://www.snip-newsletter.co.uk/pdfs/downloads/literacy_programme_1.pdf) SNIP Spelling interventions – uses the old HFW – a free paper based programme written by dyslexia tutors
- ✓ ACE Spelling Dictionary: Amazon.co.uk: David Moseley: 9781855035058: Books
- ✓ <https://highlandliteracy.com/spelling-intervention-packs/> (free)
- ✓ Active Literacy Kit (ALK) for spelling, alphabet knowledge, sequencing and reading
- ✓ <https://www.nessy.com/uk/apps/hairy-letters/> Hairy Letters app – Letter formation, phonics, spelling
- ✓ <http://dyslexikit.co.uk/> - Dyslexikit is a phonics based system of literacy materials for teachers and parents who want to transform the progress of children who do not acquire the skills of reading, reading comprehension, spelling and handwriting in the same way, or at the same rate as other children.
- ✓ Talking Tins (from £34.95 ex VAT) [Buy Talking-Point Recordable Buttons | Best Price Promise | TTS \(tts-group.co.uk\)](#)
- ✓ Free computer based program from the Usborne Foundation:
- ✓ <https://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com/> - it has three levels of reading games
- ✓ Paired reading devised by Professor Keith Topping of Dundee University - <https://barlbybridge.n-yorks.sch.uk/paired-reading/>
- ✓ Miscue Analysis is a tool for looking closely at the types of reading strategies a reader uses - [Miscue Analysis B/let NO TOP \(excellencegateway.org.uk\)](https://www.excellencegateway.org.uk/misceue-analysis/)
- ✓ The DOME sheet, developed by Anne Talbot, former Specialist Teacher for Cognition & Learning - based on the DOM sheet by Sue Palmer, independent writer and consultant on Primary Education, particularly Literacy.
- ✓ Mind maps can be a useful tool for organising new learning information.
- ✓ Checklist are a good idea to ensure children don't miss a step in a routine or a piece of equipment needed for a task.

# Handwriting

- ✓ Trial the use of a writing slope with a very gradual angle – a ring binder can work very well. This supports & develops the motor mechanics of handwriting and improves the sight lines.
- ✓ Trial the use of different pens and different grips
- ✓ Use the language of 'drawing' letters and numbers rather than writing them. This supports letter and number formation by emphasising the orientation, kinaesthetic quality and flow of letters

# Audio Books

Audio books are available from different providers. For example, North Yorkshire online library, Oxford Owls and Audible (Amazon). Young Calibre audio library has a range of interesting audio books.

- ✓ <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/digital-library>
- ✓ <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/> Books are read and words highlighted.
- ✓ <https://www.youngcalibre.org.uk/page.aspx?sitesectionid=92&sitesectiontitle=Join>
- ✓ Darlington Library also has a good selection of eBooks available- you will need to sign up for a library card first.  
<https://www2.darlington.gov.uk/web/arena/digital-reading>

# Typing Programs

- ✓ Dance Mat (free) [Dance Mat Typing - BBC Bitesize](#)
- ✓ Nesy Fingers (from £30.00 / year) [Nesy Fingers Touch Typing](#)

English Type (from £39.95 single user licence - £299.00 site licence)  
[Learn to Touch Type for Kids and Adults | English Type](#)

# Mathematics

- ✓ Talking maths <https://www.educationworks.org.uk/what-we-do/mathematics/talking-maths>
- ✓ Plus 1 by David sharp – to reinforce maths skills – 6 years upwards
- ✓ Power of 2 by David Sharp – to develop mental maths calculation skills - 8+ years
- ✓ 'The trouble with maths' and 'More Trouble Maths' by Steve Chinn
- ✓ Numicon

# Working Memory

- ✓ 'Working Memory and Learning: A Practical Guide' by Sue Gathercole and Tracy Alloway (2008)
- ✓ Limit the number of instructions in a sequence.
- ✓ Reduce, repeat & chunk information, giving time for child/young person to process information.
- ✓ Support auditory information with visual prompts.
- ✓ Allow 'thinking time' for \*pupil to respond to questions.
- ✓ Give opportunities for \*pupil to repeat & rehearse new learning.
- ✓ Don't over 'test' memory by expecting 'cold' retrieval – provide a choice array of possible answers for the pupil to select the correct answer.
- ✓ Avoid excessive copying of script from a board - difficulties with left to right sequencing, tracking info & memory makes this a very difficult task. Reproduce a table-top sheet for easy access
- ✓ If there is a need to copy from the board, don't continue delivering key information or better still, avoid talking while the pupils are copying the information down
- ✓ Provide relevant and current information on wall displays
- ✓ Provide opportunities for pre-learning vocabulary and concepts for topics/blocks of learning. This enables the pupil to access learning in the classroom by being able to 'cue in' in by recognising familiar vocabulary and concepts