

EA Literacy Service

Overview of accessibility features available on electronic devices that parents/carers may have at home



This document has been developed by the EA Literacy Service (Northern Ireland). It is intended for parents/carers who may be supporting a child or young person with literacy difficulties at home. The purpose of this document is to give parents an overview of the free built in accessibility features available on devices they may have at home. It is not intended as a complete or exhaustive list. This document covers iPhones/iPads, Android tablets, Chromebooks and Windows laptops/PCs. Parents/carers may find some of these ideas useful. It contains a range of features you may decide to use based on the needs of the child. We hope you and your child find some of the content helpful and enjoyable.

The EA Literacy Service Team, April 2020

1

“To inspire, support and challenge all our Children and Young People to be the best that they can be.”

Education Authority – Literacy Service

Accessibility Features

Accessibility features are designed to help people use technology more easily and to meet the needs of diverse learners. For example, a text-to-speech feature may read text aloud for people who need support to access the text. A speech-recognition feature allows users to voice type (dictate) their ideas into a document. They can proof read and edit it to produce a piece of typed work. Click on the hyperlinks below to find out more about the accessibility features on popular devices, some of which you may currently have in your home.

Apple devices

The accessibility features built into Apple devices can help users learn, explore, create and access text and books.

To learn more please go to Apple Accessibility Support by clicking on the link below:

[Learn more at Apple Accessibility Support](#)

To download Apple User Guides for the iPhone and iPad, click on the links below:

- ❖ **iPhone User Guide**
support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/iphone/welcome/ios
- ❖ **iPad User Guide**
[Learn more with the iPad User Guide](#)
- ❖ **iPad User Guide (Apple Books)**
[Open the iPad User Guide in Apple Books](#)

Android devices

Android devices also have a broad range of accessibility features. For an overview of accessibility features for android tablets, please click on the hyperlink below, then click on the blue words to find out more about that feature:

<https://support.google.com/accessibility/android/answer/6006564?hl=en-GB>

Windows Accessibility

The Microsoft Windows system has a comprehensive range of accessibility features. For example, if you are using Windows software on a laptop or PC, click on the hyperlink below, scroll down to 'Cognition' to find out about 'Reading friendly fonts', 'Save time with dictation' and a range of other useful features:

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/accessibility/windows>

Chromebooks

Chromebook devices have a broad range of accessibility features. Turn on your Chromebook's accessibility features to view these. Click on the hyperlink below and follow the instructions to turn on the accessibility features. Click on the blue words to find out more about each individual feature.

You can customise your Chromebook to make it easier to use by turning on the accessibility features that work best for your child's needs.

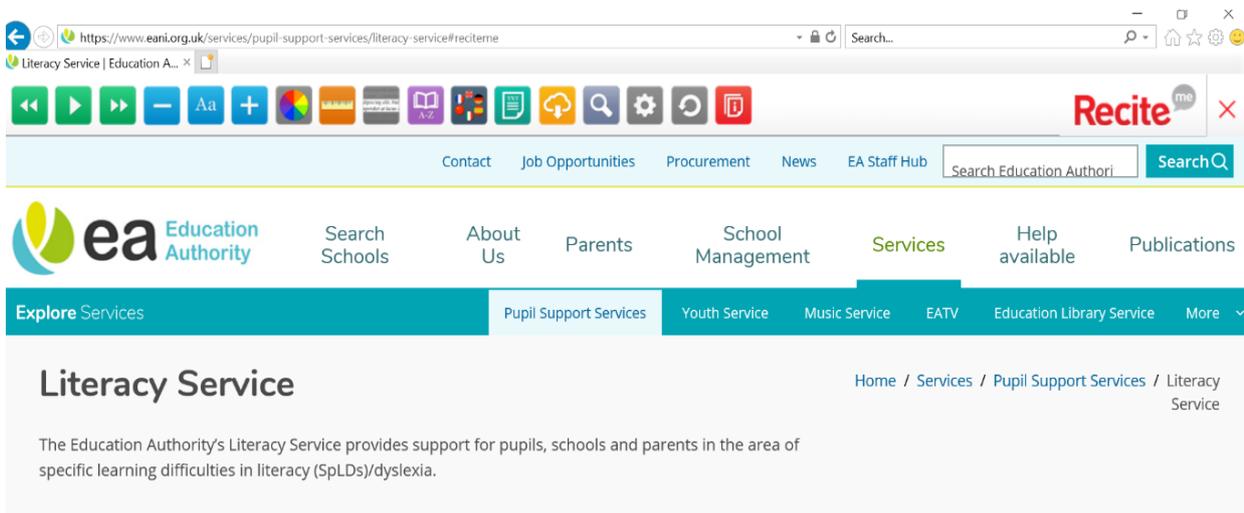
<https://support.google.com/chromebook/answer/177893?hl=en-GB>

Reciteme (for the EA Website)

Reciteme is the accessibility tool used on the EA Website to assist site visitors to navigate pages, including the Literacy Service landing page. Click on the link below. In the top left hand corner of the screen you will see the icon you can click on to access the Reciteme features.

<https://www.eani.org.uk/services/pupil-support-services/literacy-service#reciteme>

When you click on the icon, the tool bar at the top of this screen-shot will appear



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the EA website. The address bar shows the URL: <https://www.eani.org.uk/services/pupil-support-services/literacy-service#reciteme>. The page title is "Literacy Service | Education A...". The Reciteme tool bar is visible at the top of the page, featuring various accessibility icons such as navigation, font size, contrast, and screen reader. The EA logo and navigation menu are also visible. The main content area displays the "Literacy Service" heading and a brief description: "The Education Authority's Literacy Service provides support for pupils, schools and parents in the area of specific learning difficulties in literacy (SpLDs)/dyslexia."

Further information

For information on ideas and links to support a pupil with literacy difficulties at home using assistive technology during coronavirus related school closures please visit the EA Literacy Service website at:

<https://www.eani.org.uk/services/pupil-support-services/literacy-service>