

NBSS Academic Literacy & Language Support



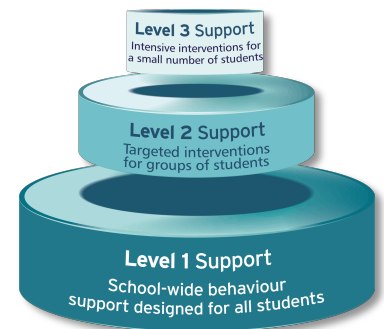
NBSS ACADEMIC LITERACY AND LANGUAGE SUPPORT

NBSS supports schools in developing effective school-wide, class, group and individual approaches to the teaching of key literacy, language and learning skills and strategies that can help students to become more purposeful, active readers, thinkers and learners.

Research points to the importance of recognising the links between behaviour and academic problems and coordinating systems for prevention and intervention in both areas. From NBSS work in post-primary schools it is clear that the strong connections between academic achievement and behaviour can mean that addressing challenges in one area can reduce difficulties arising in another.

NBSS LEVEL 1: SCHOOL-WIDE ACADEMIC LITERACY AND LANGUAGE SUPPORT

NBSS Level 1: School-wide academic literacy and language support aims to provide all students with research-validated practices, in reading, comprehension, vocabulary, writing and oral communication skills, as well as learning and study skills development. Embedding practices to acquire these skills across subject areas not only facilitates deep learning and understanding of subject content but also enables students to develop those skills and competencies necessary to achieve and succeed at second level and beyond.



Level 1: School-wide support is pro-active and preventative depending on the context of need. Basing our model on the Positive Behavioural Interventions and Supports – PBIS; Response to Intervention - Rti and the Comprehensive, Integrated, Three-Tiered Model of Prevention – Ci3T frameworks, it is clear that there will typically be a minority of students (1-10%) for whom Level 1 support will not be sufficient and therefore will require targeted group interventions – NBSS Level 2. Additionally, our working experience and the international practice and literature demonstrates that within school communities there will be approximately 1-5% of the student population who will need intensive, individual interventions - NBSS Level 3. These interventions are tailored to students' specific needs and circumstances using procedures for planning, monitoring, evaluating, and reassessing the intervention.

NBSS LEVEL 2 AND 3: GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL ACADEMIC LITERACY AND LANGUAGE SUPPORT

We believe that an integrated system of supports can enhance students' success in both academics and behaviour. Poor academic skills in school can predict a range of behaviour problems. Students who have difficulty with reading may find challenging behaviour an effective means of escaping or avoiding reading or related activities. Given this interactive relationship, NBSS Level 2 support is about identifying, targeting, planning and monitoring short-term, focused interventions for small groups of students who could benefit from this work. This can involve building mastery of specific literacy and learning skills and strategies. Such an intervention might, for example address two or more of the five main components of reading – comprehension, vocabulary, fluency, phonics and phonemic awareness - or

develop specific writing skills, oral language skills or study skills. For some students, a tightly focused programme will be sufficient to allow them to build on their learning and literacy skills or develop the confidence to engage in the learning process.

NBSS academic literacy and language support at Level 3 is concerned with developing interventions necessary for students with multiple and specific challenges to their learning and behaviour. NBSS supports schools to implement research validated literacy and language programmes and strategies as part of Level 3 interventions. NBSS research of Level 3 support found that while the majority of students receiving support were chronologically aged 13 to 15 years (80.9% [N=436]) almost half (46.6% [N=251]) had a reading age between 6 and 9 years. In supporting students at Level 3 we have provided training opportunities to school personnel in the operation of specific literacy and language programmes, advised teachers on interventions and learning strategies as well as developed teacher and students resources that could be used as part of an individual student's behaviour plan.

Among the many interventions, programmes and resources used in NBSS partner schools to support the development of key literacy, language and learning skills are:

Class/Year Group Interventions	Group and Individual Interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Vocabulary Strategies - NBSS • Bridge to Vocabulary Programme • Building Whole School Reading Communities - NBSS • Comprehension Strategy Instruction (CSI), • Corrective Reading Decoding Intervention • Comprehension Strategy Resources - NBSS • Flip for Comprehension • Literacy and Language Mats – NBSS • No Pen Day Initiative • Oxford Rollercoaster • Question Cubes • Rapid Plus Reading intervention • SNIP Vocabulary Programme • Storymaker's Chest • Story, Question, Comprehension, Conversation and Writing Cubes • Study and Learning Skills Resources – NBSS • VCOP writing strategy • Vocabulary and Comprehension Games -- NBSS • Vocabulary Enrichment Programme (VEP) • Writing with Wow Words - NBSS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Vocabulary Strategies - NBSS • AcceleRead AcceleWrite Programme • Bridge to Vocabulary Programme • Catch Up Literacy Reading intervention • Comprehension Strategy Instruction (CSI) • Comprehension Strategy Resources - NBSS • Corrective Reading Decoding Intervention • Flip for Comprehension • Language and Literacy Games - NBSS • Literacy Digital Games • Rapid Plus Reading Intervention • SNIP Vocabulary Programme • Spell Write Right Programme • Spelling City • Study and Learning Skills Resources – NBSS • Storymaker's Chest • Story, Question, Comprehension, Conversation and Writing Cubes • Toe by Toe Phonics Programme • Trugs Phonics Programme • Vocabulary and Comprehension Games -- NBSS • Vocabulary Enrichment Programme (VEP) • Wordshark • Wordsworth Programme • Writing with Wow Words - NBSS • Yes We Can Read (phonics-based programme to develop reading for meaning)

*Check out www.nbss.ie
for more information on NBSS literacy and language support to schools, NBSS
literacy and language research and NBSS literacy and language resources.*