

Supporting Literacy – ICT Software Programmes

Highland Schools are reasonably well placed to support Literacy and English through the use of ICT software programmes available on the School Network.

Reading support:

Text-to-speech technology is available for all pupils via the following software that is available on all Highland School computers.

Stuart & Heather	Scottish digital voices which can be used to listen to pieces of written text in conjunction with text-to-speech programmes.
IVONA MiniReader	A free text-to-speech utility that can read any text on a screen. This includes reading documents, PDF files, Web pages.
WordTalk	A text reader that is built into Microsoft Word that can read words, sentences or paragraphs. Also contains colour changing facilities, a phonetic spell-checker, and a facility to export text-to-speech files as audio files (WAV or MP3).
Textease	Speaks any text at word, sentence or paragraph level. Critically, it reads any given word instantly with a single click. <i>(Scottish voices cannot be used within Textease)</i>
Clicker 6	A talking word processor providing speech feedback at word, sentence or paragraph level. It also reads any word with a single mouse click. <i>(All primary machines, and 10 machines in the secondary)</i>
Microsoft Word	Microsoft Words has a built-in Speak function.
Adobe Reader	Adobe Reader has a built-in speech facility called 'Read Out Loud'.
Google Docs	Google Docs can have a Read & Write app applied to it to provide highlighted word speech feedback.

Writing/Review support

The following programmes/software is available for Writing/Review support on Highland School Computers:

Microsoft Word	The Speak function, in conjunction with Stuart & Heather can be used to create and review texts.
Google Docs	Google Docs can have a Read & Write app applied to it to provide highlighted word speech feedback when creating and reviewing texts.
Textease	Text can be reviewed at word or sentence level, the individual learner having control over the speed of which they work is read back to them.
Clicker 6	Provides prediction support for writing.
Windows 7 software	Windows 7 software, through the following accessibility options, allows for adjustments to be made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-screen keyboard (with prediction) • Voice Recognition – built into Windows 7, however due to the poor quality, this is not recommended.

Clicker 6

A guide to using Clicker 6 can be found by double-clicking the image below:



<http://www.cricksoft.com/uk/products/tools/clicker/Clicker6-guide/guide.aspx>

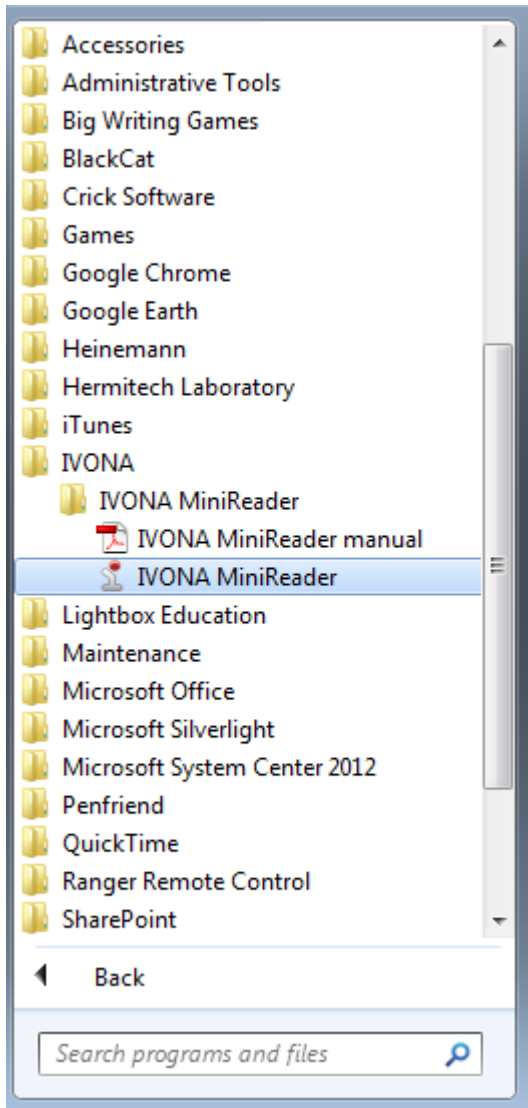
Highland are pleased to inform you that part of the Clicker 6 licensing agreement includes 'home use for teachers'. The details that enable Highland teachers to install this software at home on personal devices is Access the Clicker site using this link URL -

<http://www.cricksoft.com/support/clicker6/downloads/updates.aspx>

The Serial Code to enable download to your personal device is: **6W6QL BN3XP DUUYF 8F7FC**

IVONA MiniReader

A free text-to-speech utility that can read any text on a screen. This includes reading documents, PDF files, Web pages.



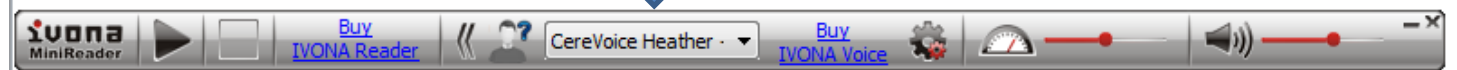
For more information, visit: <http://www.ivona.com/en/mini-reader/>

Stuart and Heather – The Scottish Voice

Scottish digital voices which can be used to listen to pieces of written text in conjunction with text-to-speech programmes.

e.g. Within IVONA MiniReader

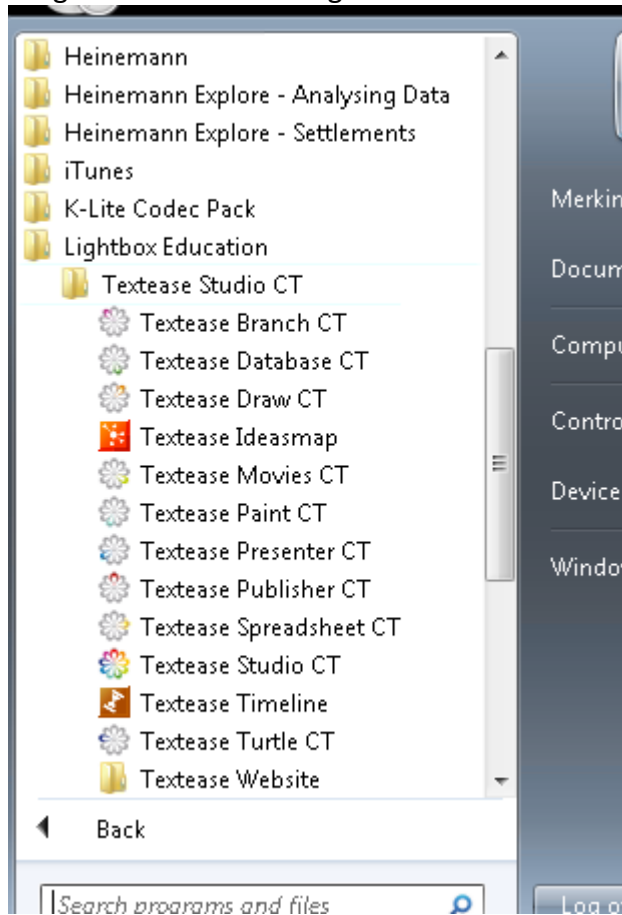
Heather and Stuart can be selected within IVONA MiniReader



The following URL contains advice and guidance - <http://www.thescottishvoice.org.uk/Support/>

Textease/Softease

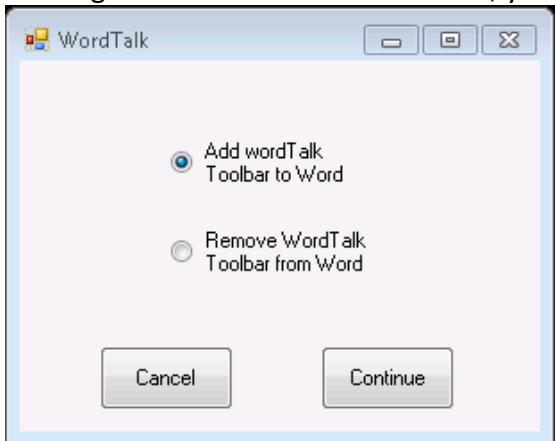
Softease Studio has been upgraded to Textease Studio CT and you will find the shortcuts for this in the All Programs menu under LightBox Education.



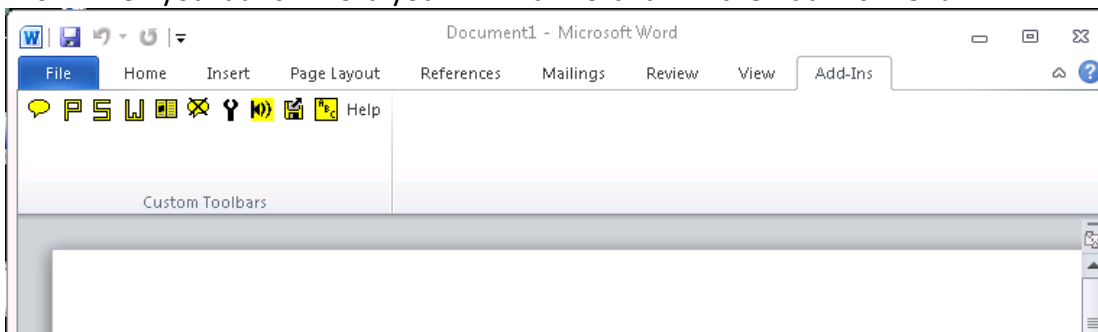
Full instructions, resources and video demos for all the new CT products can be found here
<http://www.textease.com/resources/>

WordTalk and the new Scottish Digital Voices - Stuart and Heather

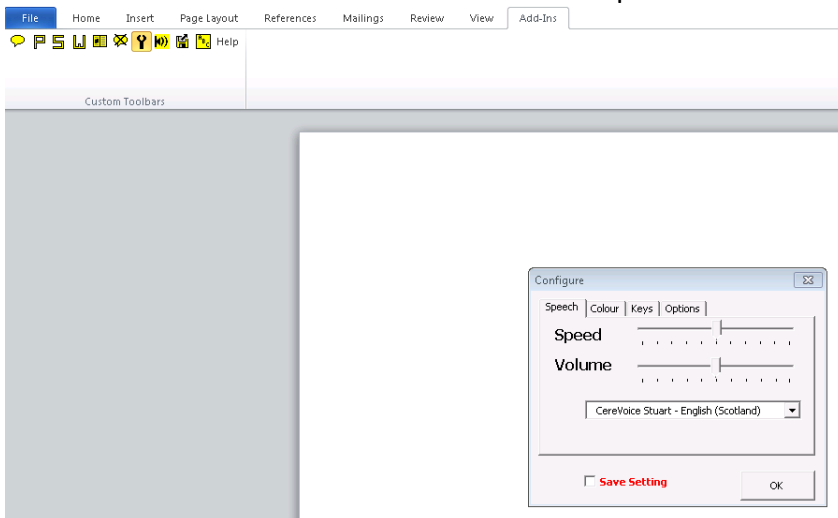
WordTalk is an add-on tool bar for Microsoft Word and is configured per user and per machine. To run WordTalk for the first time you have to enable the tool bar. To do this you should launch WordTalk from the All Programs Menu in the Start Menu, you should then select Add WordTalk and click continue.



Now when you launch Word you will find WordTalk in the Add-Ins Menu.



By default the voice is set to the Stuart voice. To change the voice to Heather click the little spanner on the toolbar and choose another voice from the drop down menu.



A full guide on how to use WordTalk can be found here
<http://www.wordtalk.org.uk/Toolbar-Quick-Guide/>