

The [Highland Literacy Strategy](#) was published in 2013, encompassing the Literacy and English guidance from [Education Scotland](#) aiming to raise standards in reading, writing, listening and talking. The Highland Literacy Working Group, including classroom practitioners, English as an Additional Language (EAL) staff, Psychological Services, Speech and Language and the Quality Improvement Team, was formed in January 2013. This session the group is continuing to develop the [Emerging Literacy](#) materials and training as well as continuing to update the [Highland Literacy Blog](#).

Since their formation the Highland Literacy Working Group have:

- made appropriate adaptations to selected [Highland Literacy Project \(HLP\)](#) materials
- created a widely used online resource to host materials created in Highland – the Highland Literacy Blog – <http://highlandliteracy.com/>
- created an online Career Long Professional Learning resource for practitioners, The Literacy Toolkit, which is accessed on the [Highland Literacy Blog](#)
- created [Steps to Success – The Highland Literacy Progression](#) to support learning, teaching and assessment in Literacy and English across the Broad General Education
- worked with partners across the Authority, including the Highland Library Service and third sector partners, to develop the [Emerging Literacy](#) materials
- developed and led training for practitioners, including Early Phase Teacher Training.

In continuing to develop their Literacy and English programmes, schools are encouraged to:

- ❖ create a Literacy and English strategy/policy which is a live document within their school linked to their Curriculum Rationale – the [Writing a Literacy Policy in Highland Schools](#) materials can support this
- ❖ use the [Steps to Success – The Highland Literacy Progression](#) to support learning, teaching and assessment, creating key assessment tasks which are moderated across schools and Area School Groups (ASGs) to support practitioner judgement in ‘*achieving a Level*’
- ❖ engage with Education Scotland’s [Assessing Progress and Achievement](#) resource and Highland’s [Monitoring and Tracking across the Broad General Education](#) materials on Glow to support assessment, monitoring and tracking and moderation of the Literacy and English curriculum
- ❖ subscribe to the [Highland Literacy Blog](#) for regular updates and access to Career Long Professional Learning through The Literacy Toolkit resource
- ❖ within the school’s Literacy and English strategy/ policy, detail the structure of the school’s Literacy programmes e.g. the use of support materials such as [Structuring Your Literacy Programme](#), [Highland Literacy Project \(HLP\) materials](#) or purchased support materials
- ❖ develop Skills for Learning, Life and Work through Literacy and English, engaging with the [Highland Skills for Learning, Life and Work](#) materials and the Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS) tab on the [Highland Literacy Blog](#)
- ❖ take a developmental approach to Literacy and English to close the attainment gap, developing the pre-reading and writing skills through the use of the [Emerging Literacy](#) materials and embedding the [Primary One Literacy Assessment and Action Resource](#) (POLAAR), before developing a more formalised approach to Literacy across the Early Years and Primary.