DARE 2027 Information for Psychologists in relation to applicants with Dyslexia / Significant Literacy Difficulties OR Dyscalculia / Significant Numeracy Difficulties

1. Acceptable report content for diagnosis of Dyslexia / Dyscalculia

Diagnosis: A full psychological assessment report of any age, which clearly states that the applicant presents with a Specific Learning Difficulty (SLD; other acceptable terminology includes: Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, Specific Learning Disability/Disorder).

Please note that an IQ Score or General Ability Score is no longer a requirement for DARE. IQ score and General Ability level are not considered exclusionary factors for DARE.

2. Attainment Scores

In addition to a full psychological assessment, applicants to DARE with a diagnosis of SLD (Dyslexia/ Dyscalculia) must provide up to date attainment scores. These scores are required in order to evidence current impact.

Applicants with **Dyslexia / Significant Literacy Difficulties** must submit a **full Psychological Assessment Report** completed by an appropriately qualified psychologist **OR Section D School Statement** AND an Educational Impact Statement. In addition, applicants with Dyslexia / Significant Literacy Difficulties must also have **two literacy attainment** scores at or below the 10th percentile (SS of 81 or below) from testing carried out on or after **1 February 2025**.

Applicants with **Dyscalculia / Significant Numeracy Difficulties** must submit a **full Psychological Assessment Report** completed by an appropriately qualified psychologist AND an Educational Impact Statement. In addition, applicants with Dyscalculia / Significant Numeracy Difficulties must have **one numeracy** attainment score at or below the 10th percentile (SS of 81 or below) from testing carried out on or after **1 February 2025**.

The scores of the attainment testing may be presented in one of the following three ways:

1. **Schools**: Attainment scores can be entered into Indicator 6 (Literacy/Numeracy Attainment Scores) by the school using attainment scores from school-based testing carried out on or after 1 February 2025.
2. **Psychologist**: Where the attainment scores are from tests carried out by a suitably qualified psychologist, one of the following must be submitted:
    - A full **Psychological Assessment Report** which contains relevant attainment scores from testing carried out on or after 1 February 2025 **OR**
    - A fully completed **DARE 2027 Literacy/Numeracy Attainment Summary Sheet** or an equivalent summary report from a Psychologist.

Combination: Where a combination of scores from psychologist and school-based testing is being reported, all scores can be entered into Indicator 6 by the school, but this must be accompanied by one of the documents listed in point 2 above.

In all cases, these must have been carried out on or after **1 February 2025**, and all applicants must submit an Educational Impact Statement (EIS) completed by their school.

Attainments in Literacy: A score at or below the 10th percentile (Standard Score of 81 or below) can be presented in any **TWO** of the following literacy areas to meet DARE criteria:

- Reading accuracy
- Single word reading
- Reading comprehension
- Phonological skills/Pseudoword Decoding
- Reading speed/fluency
- Spelling
- Writing speed

Attainments in Numeracy: A score at or below the 10th percentile (Standard Score of 81 or below) can be presented in any **ONE** of the following numeracy areas to meet DARE criteria:

- Mathematical reasoning and problem solving
- Mathematical computation
- Mathematical fluency

Please note: Written Expression is no longer acceptable for DARE eligibility under the Dyslexia/Significant Literacy Difficulties category.

Reporting Scores: Attainment scores must be reported as standard scores or percentile points. Descriptive terms and score ranges alone are not sufficient.

Appendix: An appendix may be included to list the tests used in the assessment (with references) and scores achieved in these tests, together with a table of results identifying the standard scores and/or percentile points achieved in these tests.

2. DARE Suitable attainment tests for SLD (Dyslexia / Dyscalculia)

- All applicants must be assessed using age-appropriate tests.
- Tests should be standardised, with clear evidence of validity and reliability. Tests should be up to date and currently in use.
- Use of obsolete tests will make the DARE application ineligible. In circumstances where a test has been superseded by a revised version, test administrators are advised that it is best practice to use the most recent test available. Superseded versions of tests are considered to be valid for three years after the introduction of the new version of the test in this country.

Suitable tests for Psychologist testing: The following list of suitable attainment tests for SLD (Dyslexia / Dyscalculia) has been prepared by the Disability Advisory Board to DARE, a panel of experts in the field of SLD (Dyslexia / Dyscalculia). The panel reviews the list annually and considers new tests for inclusion.

1.Reading accuracy			
Test	**Subtest**	**Age range**	**Norms**
GORT (Gray Oral Reading Test) 5, 2012	Reading accuracy	6 -23:11	US population
The Adult Reading Test (ART) – Second Ed, 2016 with 2024 updates	Accuracy	16-55	Higher Education students in England
Wechsler Individual Achievement Test – Third UK Edition (WIAT-III UK) 2017	Oral Reading Accuracy	4-25:11	UK population

2.Single word reading			
Test	**Subtest**	**Age range**	**Norms**
Wide Range Achievement Test 5 (WRAT5), 2017	Word reading	5-85+	US population
Wechsler Individual Achievement Test – Third UK Edition (WIAT-III UK)	Word reading	4-25:11	UK population
WIAT-III UK T (teacher version)	Word reading	4-25:11	UK population
Woodcock-Johnson-4 Tests of Achievement (WJ4 – ACH)	Word identification	2-90	US population
Woodcock Reading Mastery Tests (WRMT-3)	Word identification	5-75+	US population
British Ability Scales 3 (BAS-3)	Word reading	3-17	UK population
Woodcock Johnson V (WJ V, digital test) published 2025	Word Reading Accuracy	4-90+	US norms

3.Reading comprehension			
Test	**Subtest**	**Age range**	**Norms**
Wide Range Achievement Test 5 (WRAT5)	Sentence comprehension	5-94	US population
Wechsler Individual Achievement Test – Third UK Edition (WIAT-III UK)	Reading comprehension	4-25:11	UK population
WIAT-III UK T (teacher version)	Reading Comprehension	4-25:11	UK population
Woodcock-Johnson-4 Tests of Achievement (WJ4 – ACH)	Passage comprehension	2-90	US population
Woodcock Reading Mastery Tests (WRMT-3)	Word & passage comprehension	5-75+	US population
GORT (Gray Oral Reading Test) 5	Reading comprehension	6-23.11	US population
The Adult Reading Test (ART) – Second Edition	Comprehension	16-55	Higher Education students in England
Woodcock Johnson V (WJ V, digital test) published 2025	Paragraph Reading Comprehension	4-90+	US norms
SPaRCS, 2018	Spelling and Reading Comprehension	13-18:11	UK & Irish normed

4. Phonological Skills/ Pseudoword Decoding			
Test	**Subtest**	**Age range**	**Norms**
Wechsler Individual Achievement Test – Third UK Edition (WIAT-III UK)	Pseudoword decoding	4-25:11	UK population
Woodcock-Johnson-4 Tests of Achievement (WJ4 – ACH)	Word attack	2-90	US population
Woodcock Reading Mastery Tests (WRMT-3)	Word attack	5-75+	US population
Comprehensive test of Phonological processing-2nd Ed (CTOPP-2)	Phonological awareness composite	4-24.11	US population
Test of Word Reading Efficiency-2 (TOWRE-2)	Phonemic decoding efficiency	6-24.11	US population

5.Reading speed / fluency			
Test	**Subtest**	**Age range**	**Norms**
Wechsler Individual Achievement Test – Third UK Edition (WIAT-III UK)	Oral Reading Speed, Oral Reading Fluency	6-25:11	UK population
Woodcock-Johnson-4 Tests of Achievement (WJ4 – ACH)	Reading fluency	2-90	US population
WIAT-III UK T (teacher version)	Reading Comprehension	4-25:11	UK population
The Adult Reading Test (ART) – Second Edition	Speed of reading	16-55	Higher Education students in England
GORT (Gray Oral Reading Test) 5	Reading rate, Reading fluency	6-23.11	US population
Test of Word Reading Efficiency-2 (TOWRE-2)	Sight word efficiency	6-24.11	US population
Woodcock Johnson V (WJ V, digital test) published 2025	Sentence Reading Fluency	4-90+	US norms

6.Spelling			
Test	**Subtest**	**Age range**	**Norms**
Wide Range Achievement Test 5 (WRAT5)	Spelling	5-94	US population
Wechsler Individual Achievement Test – Third UK Edition (WIAT-III UK)	Spelling	4-25:11	UK population
WIAT-III UK T (teacher version)	Spelling	4-25:11	UK population
Woodcock-Johnson-4 Tests of Achievement (WJ4 – ACH)	Spelling	2-90	US population
Vernon Graded word spelling test 3rd Ed 2006	More up to date spelling tests available for use	5-18	UK students
British Ability Scales 3 (BAS-3)	Spelling	3-17	UK population
Woodcock Johnson V (WJ V, digital test) published 2025	Spelling	4-90+	US normed
SPaRCS, 2018	Spelling and Reading Comprehension	13-18:11	UK & Irish normed

7.Writing speed			
Test	**Subtest**	**Age range**	**Norms**
Detailed Assessment of Speed of Handwriting, 2007	Composite score of Subtests 1-4	9-16:11	UK students in Higher education
Detailed Assessment of Speed of Handwriting 2, 2024	Uses a composite score	8-25	UK based norms
The Adult Reading Test (ART) – Second Edition	Writing speed	16-55	Higher Education students in England
The Irish Adaptation of the Handwriting Speed Test	Mechanical speed of writing	3rd class to 6th Year	Irish students
Woodcock-Johnson-4 Tests of Achievement (WJ4 – ACH)	Writing fluency	2-90	US population
Woodcock Johnson V (WJ V, digital test) published 2025	Sentence Writing Accuracy & Sentence Writing Fluency	4-90+	US norms

Mathematical reasoning and problem solving			
Test	**Subtest**	**Age range**	**Norms**
Woodcock-Johnson-4 Tests of Achievement (WJ4 – ACH)	Applied problems or Quantitative reasoning	2-90	US population
Wechsler Individual Achievement Test – Third UK Edition (WIAT-III UK)	Maths problem solving	4-25:11	UK population
Woodcock Johnson V (WJ V, digital test) published 2025	Math Problem Identification	4-90+	US normed, 2

Mathematical computation			
Test	**Subtest**	**Age range**	**Norms**
Woodcock-Johnson-4 Tests of Achievement (WJ4 – ACH)	Calculation	2-90	US population
Wechsler Individual Achievement Test – Third UK Edition (WIAT-III UK)	Numeracy	4-25:11	UK population
Mathematics Competency Test		11-adult	UK
Wide Range Achievement Test 5 (WRAT5)	Math computation	5-94	US population
Woodcock Johnson V (WJ V, digital test) published 2025	Number Sense	4-90+	US normed

Mathematical fluency			
Test	**Subtest**	**Age range**	**Norms**
Woodcock-Johnson-4 Tests of Achievement (WJ4 – ACH)	Math fluency	2-90	US population
Wechsler Individual Achievement Test – Third UK Edition (WIAT-III UK)	Maths Fluency (composite score only)	4-25:11	UK population