



libraries.
fingal.ie



Fingal Libraries

Free resources for
Primary Schools

Welcome

Fingal Libraries has long been an enthusiastic partner to schools in our community. This guide has been designed to showcase all the free resources that we have to offer teachers and students in Fingal. We sincerely hope it will open up a world of easy-to-use services that can support learning needs in the classroom.

This guide provides a summary of resources and how to get started with them. We try to show how they could be of use in an educational setting, with the graphics intended to give a flavour of each service. Headings such as literacy, numeracy and skill-building categorise the type of learning opportunities that we are happy to offer.

We have uploaded the guide to the Fingal Libraries website so it's always available. If you'd like more copies for your staffroom colleagues, just email your local branch and we'll get them to you. Finally, please don't hesitate to contact us if you need any further information or if you have any queries about our services to primary schools.

Kind regards,

All the staff of Fingal Libraries

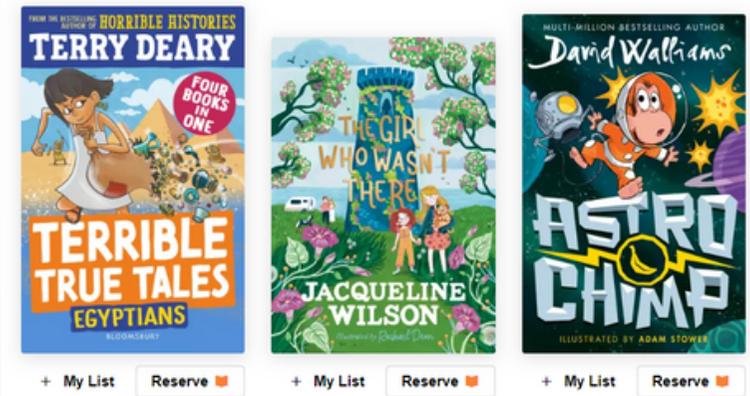
Literacy & Numeracy

Borrowbox

- Offers thousands of digital books, audiobooks, newspapers & magazines, with content for children and young adults. It's your online library.
- Suitable for Summer Stars and digital book clubs, ebooks come with dyslexia-friendly fonts and a talkback feature. Audiobooks are great for children who prefer to listen, rather than read. Narration speed can be adjusted. Non-fiction titles could be used for projects and homework.

Instructions

- Download the BorrowBox app, or go to bit.ly/BorrowBoxFingal
- ID = your library card number
- Password = your card's PIN. No need for separate password
- Add an email address



LOTE4Kids

- Offering 3000+ digital picture books in 65+ languages, LOTE4Kids has fully animated books, with English or LOTE subtitles and narration. Each book comes with an English translation. Recommended for ages 3-8.
- Great for pupils whose first language isn't English, LOTE4Kids allows them to have storytime in their languages. Alternatively, would you like to teach your pupils a few words of a new language?

Instructions

- Download the LOTE4Kids app, or go to bit.ly/LOTEFingal
- Select *Fingal* as your *Library*
- Enter your card number & PIN



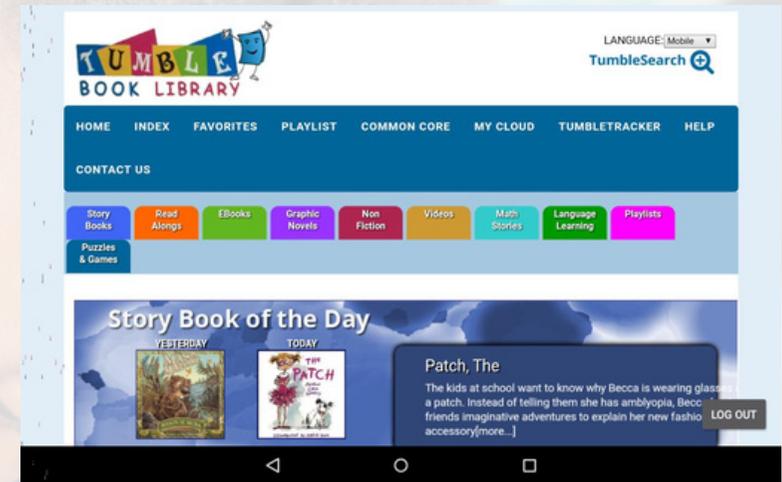
Literacy & Numeracy

TumbleBooks

- **TumbleBooks** offers a library full of eBooks, specially designed for primary schools. It offers animated picture books, read-along books, sing-along books, and videos. There are non-fiction titles about science, geography, mathematics, history and also graphic novels, games and puzzles.
- It's a great way to encourage children to read, as books are both entertaining and educational. Story books are professionally narrated, with highlighted text so children can follow along. If you are planning a themed lesson, TumbleBooks Library features a large selection of books about family, first days of school, new siblings, allergies, bullying, and more.

Instructions

- Simply go to bit.ly/FingalTumbleBook
- Alternatively, download the TumbleBooks app, confirm *Fingal* as your Library Service and register with your library card number



TumbleMath

- Maths-themed picture books are narrated and animated so pupils can listen along. Supplementary lesson plans and quizzes accompany the books.
- Make numeracy fun by teaching it through stories. The Quiz Portal contains thousands of quizzes created by maths teachers and covers all the primary school maths concepts.

Instructions

- To get started, go to bit.ly/FingalTumbleMath

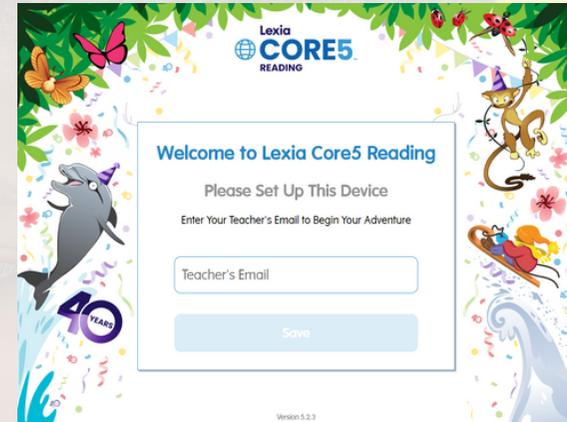
Literacy & Numeracy

Lexia

- Core5 is a reading programme that is tailored to a pupil's needs. Online lessons are scripted, teacher-led and are designed with a range of learners in mind. Lexia builds their phonemic awareness and phonics. Cute, colourful visuals and playful instructions makes for a fun learning experience.
- The website offers an outstanding variety of lesson plans with corresponding classwork for whole group, small group, or individual instruction.

Instructions

- To get started, please email lexia@fingal.ie



Touch Type Read and Spell (TTRS)

- TTRS is an online typing course that helps with literacy and spelling. Pupils see the words on screen, hear the words spoken aloud and then type the corresponding keys. It was developed to provide step-by-step learning so those with dyspraxia, dyslexia, and other learning issues can work through a typing program at their own pace. TTRS follows a curriculum of English phonics.
- Recommended for age 7 up to adults, the program can be used independently or with minimum supervision.

Instructions

- Register by emailing your name and library card number to library.eservices@fingal.ie



Homework & Skill Building

Transparent Languages Online - KidSpeak

- Makes language-learning fun. Available in Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish, KidSpeak offers songs, games, puzzles and other age-appropriate learning materials for ages 6+.
- Students learn the alphabet and word recognition, simple sentences, how to use plural and singular, how to distinguish between words that look and sound similar, simple addition and subtraction, how to tell time, number recognition, and correct pronunciation.

Instructions

- Go to bit.ly/TLOFingal to register. You can either continue on the website or download the app and follow the login prompts.



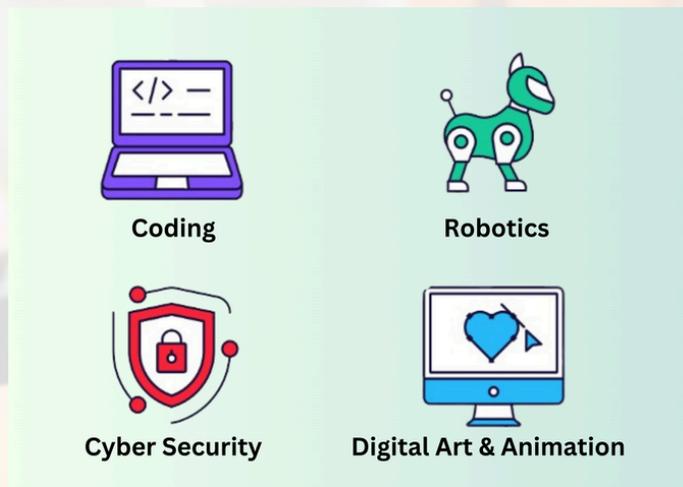
Coding Ireland

- Coding Ireland now offers not just coding but also Robotics, Digital Art & Animation, and Cybersecurity. We offer free access for parents and children who are interested in the digital world. Four clubs are open for membership: 7-9 years old, 10-12 years old, 13-15 years old, 16+ years old.
- Coding cultivates creativity while encouraging children to learn through hands-on practice.

Instructions

Select one of the following links based on the student's age:

- Coding Ireland 7-9: bit.ly/CodingClubAFingal
- Coding Ireland 10-12: bit.ly/CodingClubBFingal



Homework & Skill Building

The Times Digital Archive

- This archive is a digital treasure-trove of full-text newspapers. It covers more than 200 years of The Times (UK) newspaper. It's an amazing resource for 18th, 19th, 20th & early 21st century news coverage.
- For in-class projects or homework, this archive is unbeatable for history projects. Pupils can see how events were reported at the time and learn the value of primary sources. How was the Titanic's sinking reported in 1912? How was the Easter Rising viewed?

Instructions

- Access using the password *tryinformarks* at bit.ly/TimesArchiveFingal



Britannica Encyclopaedias: Junior Version

- Access the children's version of the famous encyclopaedia series so that your students have a guaranteed source of good information. Designed for children aged 5-11.
- Learn more about geography, animals, famous people, and so much more! Britannica Junior is an invaluable tool when setting homework or projects.

Instructions

- Go to bit.ly/BritannicaJuniorFingal and log in with your library card number.

Geography



World Atlas



Compare Countries



Geography Explorer

Collections & Book Lists

Class Sets

We hold class sets of over 50 books and graphic novels. Any teacher holding a Fingal Teacher's Card can borrow from this collection. Titles are curated for different classes. The collection includes such popular writers as David Walliams, Roald Dahl, Marita Conlon-McKenna, Eoin Colfer, Terry Deary, Ann Carroll, and many more. We also offer some titles *as Gaeilge*.

How Class Sets Work:

- You can request up to 30 copies of a book at the same time.
- Books can be borrowed for a 12-week-period.
- Email malahidelibrary@fingal.ie with your top 3 title choices, in order of preference. We ask for three options in case your top choice is already on loan.
- Include your teacher's card number and the Fingal library from which you'd like to collect the books.
- Malahide Library staff will email to confirm which title has been issued to you.
- Staff at the pick-up branch will contact you when the books are available for collection.
- To see the class sets brochure, please scan the QR code on this page or email your local library to request a copy.



Download our
Class Sets
brochure directly
to your device

Collections & Book Lists



Download our
LGBTQ+ brochure
directly to your
device

Graded Readers

Our libraries hold collections of graded readers. Available in fiction and non-fiction, the range of titles is suitable for all ages. Finding the right level of language encourages children to keep reading, while also building their vocabulary and confidence. Contact your local library to find out more about borrowing graded readers for your class.

LGBTQ+ Collection

Fingal Libraries holds a collection of LGBTQ+ books, designed to cover all ages from pre-school to young adults. Our guide includes board books, picture books and chapter books, in both fiction and non-fiction. To see the range of themes and titles, scan the QR code or email your local library to request a copy of the guide.

Collections & Book Lists

Book Lists and Resources

If you're looking for lists of books your class might like to read, can we recommend Libraries Ireland's curated lists?

The detailed titles cover the following areas:

- Class sets - Picture books (junior & senior Infants)
- Class sets - Early readers (1st & 2nd classes)
- Class sets - Older readers (2nd-4th classes)
- Class sets - Older readers (5th & 6th classes)
- Primary Reading Schemes - series of graded readers
- Autistic spectrum - various age ranges
- LGBTQ+ Board books
- LGBTQ+ Picture books
- LGBTQ+ Chapter books

To see or download the guide, go to bit.ly/ResourceGuideSchools



Scan QR code to
go to Libraries
Ireland's
booklists

Collections & Book Lists



Scan QR code to
go to Children's
Books Ireland

Children's Books Ireland

The link below also has a section from Children's Books Ireland that provides very useful information for teachers and school librarians, including:

- Advice on how to use grants for school libraries
- Downloadable resources for school libraries
- Links to Irish publishers
- Book lists for refugees and International Protection applicants
- Links to wordless picture book titles
- STEM book lists
- Best non-fiction books

Additional Needs

Fingal Libraries' **Sensory Toy Collection** is part of our Autism Friendly Resource Programme and features a selection of toys that can be used in our libraries. They are designed to be appealing to the senses and assist with motor function development.

We also have lendable **Sensory Backpacks**, pre-packed with sensory items. These include fidget kits, fibre optic lights, an ocean wave projector with sounds and speaker, a windup dynamo torch, zip fidget bracelets, a cuddle ball, a weighted blanket, a weighted lap pad, sensory bags, a shape-matching box, spark sequence, storytelling cards and a sensory pillow. Ask library staff for details.

Some libraries have a **Sensory Pod**, designed to be a cocooned, calming, relaxing space for children who are overwhelmed. The sensory pod has a mood light ceiling that is calming and relaxing. It can be changed instantly to a favourite colour. The space is fun, relaxing and appealing to any child. Pods can help prevent and manage the disruption caused by sensory overload.



Download our
Sensory
Resource
brochure directly
to your device

Additional Needs



Just A Minute (JAM) cards were introduced to Fingal Libraries, and all staff trained in the programme. Individuals presenting the card are asking for 'Just A Minute' of time and patience in a private, discreet, and easy way. The cards also provide an easy way for library staff to identify people with communication barriers and hidden disabilities.

Quiet Times are offered in Malahide, Blanchardstown, Rush, Howth, Donabate, Balbriggan, Swords and Skerries Libraries. Ask library staff for details.

Tovertafel Tables can be used in Malahide, Blanchardstown, Rush and Balbriggan Libraries. Also known as magic tables, they project a series of interactive games onto a table. The images from the games respond to the user's hand and arm movements, allowing users to play with light. Originally designed for people with dementia, these tables provide fun interactive games for people of all ages.

C-Pens are lightweight devices that read printed words aloud as they scan over text. Children move the pen at a steady pace across text and when they lift it from the paper (about half a word length from the last word) the pen reads the text aloud. This device is great for anyone with reading difficulties such as dyslexia. Pupils can work alongside their peers independently. C-Pens are available to borrow from our branch libraries.

At Your Library

Library staff are delighted to facilitate tours and class visits to explain how the library works. Contact your nearest branch to arrange a date and time.

We also present a full schedule of free events, workshops, talks and festivals throughout the year for all ages and interests, including workshops and talks aimed at primary and secondary school audiences? Contact your local library to find out more about events for schools. Some branches have mailing lists, so you can keep up-to-date on what's going on, or you can follow us on social media. Everything you need to know can be found at bit.ly/LibrariesEventsFingal

Apart from amazing digital and physical resources, Fingal Libraries is ultimately about people and communities. Our staff members are here to answer your questions and accommodate your needs. We'd love to be of assistance to you, your pupils, and your school.



Joining the Library

We offer special **Teachers' cards**, with which you can borrow up to 30 junior items for a period of 90 days. You can borrow a mix of fiction and non-fiction titles, or even a class set from our list of available titles. Please note that a Teacher's card is not for personal use.

Register your details online and take note of your temporary number. Bring your temporary number along with photo ID, proof of address and proof of employment from your school to the library.

If you would like to register your class for library cards, please contact your local library. All junior accounts require a guarantor, so you will need to obtain parental permission for each account. In order to register a pupil, you will need to provide the following details:

Full name, address, date of birth, guarantor's name, and guarantor's contact details (phone number or email). All children will be registered with a standard junior account, allowing them to borrow up to 12 items for 21 days.

Registering your class for library cards is a great way to enhance a class visit, as it helps your class fully engage with the library; everyone gets to bring something back to school with them.

Instructions

Joining the library has never been easier; join online at bit.ly/RegisterFingal



Scan QR code
to join the
library

Library Contact Details

BALBRIGGAN LIBRARY

01 870 4401

balbrigganlibrary@fingal.ie

BALDOYLE LIBRARY

01 890 6793

baldoylelibrary@fingal.ie

BLANCHARDSTOWN LIBRARY

01 890 5560

blanchlibrary@fingal.ie

DONABATE LIBRARY

01 890 5609

donabate.library@fingal.ie

GARRISTOWN LIBRARY

01 835 5020

garristownlibrary@fingal.ie

HOWTH LIBRARY

01 890 5026

howth.library@fingal.ie

MALAHIDE LIBRARY

01 870 4430

malahidelibrary@fingal.ie

RUSH LIBRARY

01 870 8414

rushlibrary@fingal.ie

SKERRIES LIBRARY

01 890 5671

skerrieslibrary.library@fingal.ie

SWORDS LIBRARY

01 890 5582

swordslibrary@fingal.ie

LIBRARY E-SERVICES

For eService queries;

library.eservices@fingal.ie

libraries.
fingal.ie

