

Literacy for life, literacy for all

Electing members of the European parliament who will promote, protect and prioritise adult literacy

On Friday 24 May this year we will vote for our members of the European Parliament (MEPs) for the next five years. We want to elect MEPs who value adult literacy, education and lifelong learning. We want to elect MEPs who believe in:

Investing in literacy – investing in people – investing in society

Upskilling Pathways is offering adults with low skills and low qualifications the opportunity to access upskilling through

1. Assessing their needs;
2. Tailored learning offer; and
3. Validating and recognising these skills.



We want MEPs to:

1. continue to support the realisation of lifelong learning with priority given to those with low or no skills and or qualifications
2. seek increased resources to support the delivery of the Upskilling Pathways agenda throughout Europe.

Further information

National Adult Literacy Agency
Sandford Lodge, Sandford Close
Ranelagh, Dublin 6
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Tel: +353 1 412 7900



nalairland



Website for parents to help their children

#LiteracyMatters

Literacy for life, literacy for all – the facts

Literacy promotes equality. Equal societies are happier, healthier and wealthier. Adult learning and education promotes “sustainable development, healthier societies, better jobs and more active citizenship”.¹

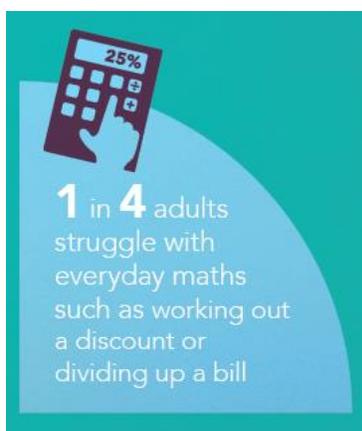
Literacy and numeracy needs in Europe

Basic literacy and numeracy skills cannot be taken for granted. In the EU, almost three quarters of the population has at least an upper secondary qualification.

Close to 70 million Europeans **struggle with** basic reading and writing, calculation and using digital tools in everyday life.² The OECD Survey of Adult Skills (PIAAC) also shows us that around 20% of the adult population in the participating countries struggles with basic skills like literacy and numeracy.

In 2017, 61 million adults aged 25 to 64 living in the EU had stopped their formal education before completing upper secondary education. 43% of the EU population has an insufficient level of digital skills and 17% has none at all.³

Literacy and numeracy needs in Ireland



Unmet adult literacy and numeracy needs have devastating consequences for individuals, communities and the economy and are a factor in social exclusion and inequality (OECD, 2013).

¹ UNESCO (2016) [3rd Global Report on Adult Learning and Education](#)

² European Commission webpage <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1224>

³ European Commission Staff Working Document (2019): [Council Recommendation on Upskilling Pathways: New Opportunities for Adults Taking stock of implementation measures](#)