

Braille Statement

Braille is the key to literacy, independence and successful employment. At St Vincent's, Braille is taught from an early age on a daily basis. At Primary level it is taught during literacy lessons and is often reinforced through one-to-one enrichment sessions and throughout the cross curricular timetable. In Secondary those needing Braille tuition receive individual sessions as part of their timetable. All individual Braille sessions are delivered by qualified tutors following a personalised learning plan for each individual pupil. Specifically designed schemes are followed to introduce the Code in a structured format, depending on the pupil's age and ability. Some of the schemes used include: "Hands On", "Abi", "Take Off" and "Fingerprints".

On completion of the UEB Code, pupils have the opportunity to take the widely recognized RNIB qualification in Braille

Some pupils will be given the option of using a BrailleNote – a Google registered Braille tablet. This equipment allows the pupil to create and review documents, set appointments, handle e-mail, surf the Internet, read books, perform calculations and maintain contact information.

For all subjects, modified texts are produced in-house using extensive reprographics resources. All teaching staff are required to learn Braille as part of the mandatory qualification to teach the visually impaired. Support staff are required to enrol on the UEB on-line course within three months of joining the staff and allocated a Braille Tutor for support.

All classrooms are equipped with an appropriate number of Braille machines.

Braille is of great importance to all at St Vincent's and we ensure the whole school is a Braille-friendly environment.