



## LETTER CIRCULAR

**Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**Ref:** DELH 029/2024

**To:** Permanent Secretary, Directors General, Directors, CIO, Heads of College Network, Education Officers, Heads of Primary Schools (State and Non-State), Heads of Entities

**From:** David Muscat, CEO, National Literacy Agency

**Subject:** Nwar Family Literacy Programme 2024

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The National Literacy Agency would like to inform schools that the Nwar programme applications are open. Nwar is an after-school literacy intervention programme for students who are encountering literacy difficulties in Maltese or English. It supports the acquisition of phonological awareness, alphabet knowledge, phonic knowledge, reading, spelling, writing and comprehension strategies.

The Agency offers this programme to students who struggle in literacy. The sessions are held twice a week for a maximum of 4 Nwar semesters. Once the basic literacy level is reached, students would have reached the full term of the programme. The progress of the child is monitored on a regular basis and regular attendance is required. Failure to attend regularly, with a maximum of 5 unauthorized missed sessions, will lead to the discontinuation of the service.

### Eligibility:

- Students in Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 (students in Year 5 have time to apply ONLY till the end of November, while students at the end of the scholastic year who are in Year 2 can also apply).
- Students can apply in **1 language only**.
- Only students who have difficulties with reading and spelling are eligible; therefore, students who have a lack of language exposure and cannot understand and speak the language are not eligible.
- Applicants will be accepted after an in-house assessment which must confirm the information presented on the application.

### Application process:

The application is to be filled in and sent by parents/guardians ONLY. They can send the attached application form by email to [nwar.nla@ilearn.edu.mt](mailto:nwar.nla@ilearn.edu.mt) or as hard copy to the National Literacy Agency, Joseph Abela Scolaro Street, Hamrun HMR 1304. We are open from 7:30 to 16:30. Schools can also help in the application process if parents are unable to do this themselves; however, parents are to send the application themselves.

Ten centres are open this year and sessions will be given face-to-face. Parents are to choose their preferred centre/s: San Ġwann, Rabat, B'Kara, Hamrun SS, Qormi SB, Żurrieq, Fgura, Zabbar, St.Paul's Bay and Gozo.

All applications are to be approved by a member of the school management team who confirms that the student qualifies for the programme. We urge all schools to inform parents of students with literacy difficulties about our service.



**GOVERNMENT OF MALTA**  
MINISTRY FOR EDUCATION, SPORT, YOUTH,  
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION  
DIRECTORATE FOR EARLY YEARS, LANGUAGES AND HUMANITIES

Any queries should be addressed to Ms Marika Farrugia, Senior Manager, Nwar family literacy programme, telephone: 25983323, or email: [marika.farrugia@ilearn.edu.mt](mailto:marika.farrugia@ilearn.edu.mt)

Thank you for your attention,

**Sandra Ebejer**  
**Director**  
**Early Years, Languages and Humanities**  
**MEYR**