Rural Youth & Adult Literacy Trust

Literacy Tuition for Rural/Isolated Adults & Teenagers

HOW IT WORKS

FREE READING AND WRITING LESSONS FOR RURAL ADULTS - ALL YOU NEED IS A PHONE!

0800-891-339

Student rings RYALT

Initial interview is done straight away
1. Contact details
2. Learning background discussed.
3. What they want help with discussed.
4. Assessment process explained.
5. Privacy agreement is read to the student.

Assessment is mailed to the student

This includes the writing assessment, the privacy agreement for signing and an envelope with a cross on it, a self-addressed envelope for returning these, which contains the reading assessment. The student is not to open that envelope till Wendy rings them again.

Student signs the privacy agreement and does the two samples of writing. Then they post it back in the enclosed addressed envelope.

Completed writing is received back at RYALT

Wendy rings the student to do the reading assessment. Often a better time is arranged. It is important that they are somewhere private and not embarassed.

The student is placed with a volunteer literacy coach.

Wendy sends envelopes to the student, which are addressed to the coach. This is so the student can post their writing to the coach.

Sometimes there is a support person who can email scanned copies of the writing. e.g. a neighbour, a WINZ case officer or an employer.

The new coach rings the student to discuss how they will meet - what suits the student in terms of days, times and for how long.

We encourage students to meet with coaches for 5 days a week for 30 minutes a day.

Coach sends reading material to student and once a week student sends writing to the coach.

Sometimes local papers can be used for reading materials .

Sometimes there is a support person who can receive reading materials by email and print them. e.g. a neighbour, a WINZ case officer or an employer.

Coach rings student 3-5 times a week for half an hour. Aim for 5 days a week and it is likely it will end up being 3-4 times a week.

What will happen in the half hour?

(a) Talk about the writing the day it arrives, choose spelling words from the writing, discuss how they can be learned, add them to the spelling practice chart and start practising them.

OR

(b) Revise/practise spelling words and read new material

(Discuss vocabulary, revise this). Homework is usually to learn spelling or vocab or to do some writing. sometimes exercise sheets are given.

If the student has access to a computer and internet, practice for another 30 minutes a day using our online literacy practice software.

Practising with the software makes the rote learning part of literacy more fun. Our software is adult focussed, not childish. Using this more than doubles the speed with which students learn.