

Information for health professionals – please read

Thank you for helping us to spread the joy of sharing books from birth. Families trust and value you as a reliable source of information, so your involvement in gifting makes a huge difference.

Gifting the Bookbug Bags

- **Bookbug Baby Bag** (gifted at 3–5 weeks*)
- **Bookbug Toddler Bag** (gifted at 13–15 months*)

**As specified in the Universal Health Visiting Pathway in Scotland*

Please look inside the Bookbug Bags and show them to parents. The contents change every year.

Please note: The Baby Bag has long handles as it's for parents to use. Do not leave babies and children alone with the bag.

Talk to families about the books and resources in their Bookbug Bag – they are more likely to use the bags if you do.

Important messages to share

Sharing stories, songs and rhymes:

- Gives you meaningful moments together building your special connection
- Calms and soothes your baby with a cuddle and the sound of your voice
- Boosts your baby's brain development
- Helps speech and language development

It's never too early – start today!

Libraries are great for families with young children, so please encourage them to:

- Join their local library and borrow books for free. Babies and children can have library cards of their own
- Go along to local Bookbug Sessions – free sessions of stories, songs and rhymes for children from birth to 5 years and their families. Find local and online sessions on our website scottishbooktrust.com/localbookbugsessions



Bookbug for families

We have a special section on our website for new parents – just search for ‘Bookbug for families’. Please tell families about this and the free Bookbug app

scottishbooktrust.com/bookbug

Fully funded training sessions

We provide funded training for health staff to support the gifting of the Bookbug Baby and Toddler Bags. Find out more and see upcoming training dates at

scottishbooktrust.com/bookbugtraining

Resources for children who need additional support

We provide tactile books for children and families who need additional support. Find out more at

scottishbooktrust.com/bookbug/asn

Bookbug speaks Gaelic!

All families interested in Gaelic or with a child in Gaelic Medium Education are entitled to a Gaelic Bookbug Bag

scottishbooktrust.com/gaelic-bookbug



Help for adults who struggle with literacy or numeracy

For adults who struggle with reading, writing or numbers, The Big Plus can help. Help is free, and available across Scotland with local tutors. Call **0800 917 8000** or visit thebigplus.com

Need more bags?

Contact your local Bookbug Co-ordinator to:

- Order more Bookbug Bags
- Order Gaelic Bookbug Bags
- Request tactile books

Find their details at

scottishbooktrust.com/bookbug/local-contacts

Or, contact Scottish Book Trust's Early Years team on **0131 524 0179**

email bookbug@scottishbooktrust.com or visit scottishbooktrust.com/bookbug

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