

Northamptonshire Local Offer: A User Guide to Browsealoud

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This is a user guide to Browsealoud. Browsealoud is an accessibility widget which is found on all Northamptonshire County Council webpages. It is used to make information on the website easier to access if you have a disability, a sensory impairment or if you speak another language.

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What is Browsealoud?

The Browsealoud widget allows users to customise the pages they are viewing, translate into another language and listen to the text.

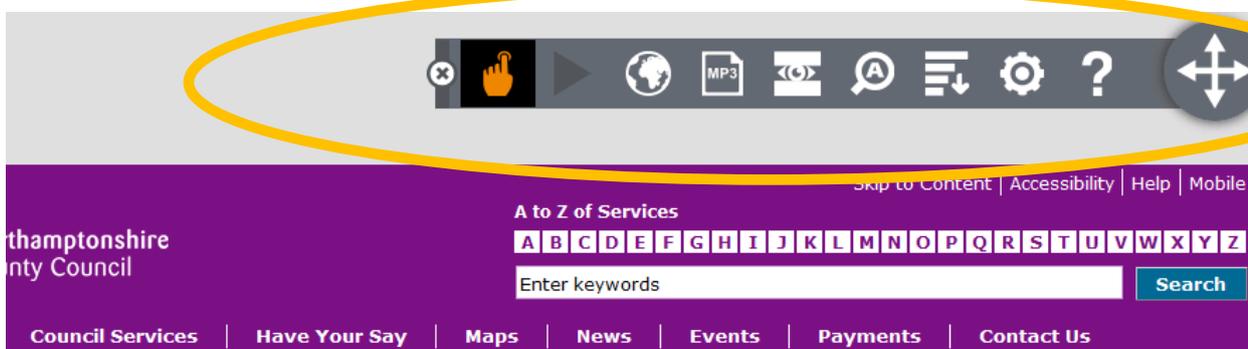
The Browsealoud widget looks like this:



You can find it with the social media links, usually found at the bottom of all Northamptonshire County Council webpages.



To activate Browsealoud, click on the widget, it will move up the page and expand to show all options:



In 'Information and Articles':

You can apply the functions of Browsealoud to any document in our document library:

1. Search for the document you wish to read:



A search bar with a purple border. It contains a dropdown menu labeled 'Select category', a text input field labeled 'Enter Keywords', a dropdown menu labeled 'Where?' with 'Postcode' selected, an 'Or' separator, another dropdown menu labeled 'Select Location', and a purple 'Search' button.

Information and Articles

Your search found 1 result and 1 information and articles document.

You can refine your results or [search again](#).



Search results (1)

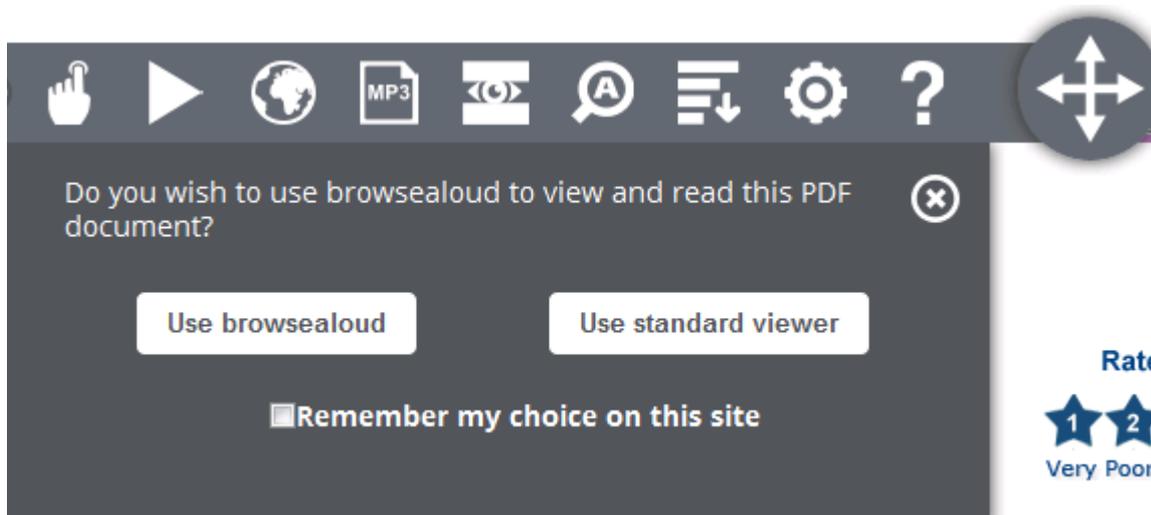
Information and articles (1)

 [A guide to the Local Offer \(Easy Read\)](#)

An Easy Read Guide to the Local Offer

2. Activate Browsealoud by clicking on the widget

3. It will display this screen:



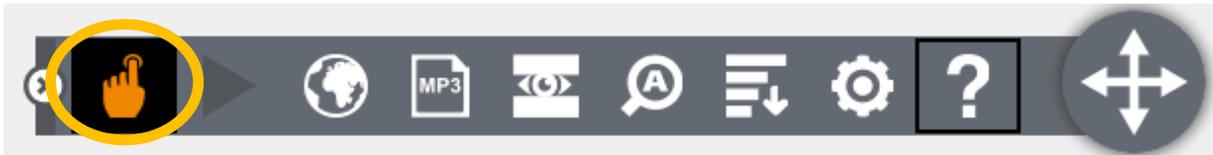
3. If you select 'use Browsealoud', it will open the document as normal, displaying the widget, allowing you to apply any function you need.

Functions of Browsealoud

Play the text out loud

1. Hover to 'speak mode'

This automatically plays the text on the page (this is set as a default).



Please note: to change which mode is active you need to deselect the mode you are using in order to select a new one.

2. Select 'speak mode'

This speaks the text you have selected. Select the text you wish to hear and then press the grey play button

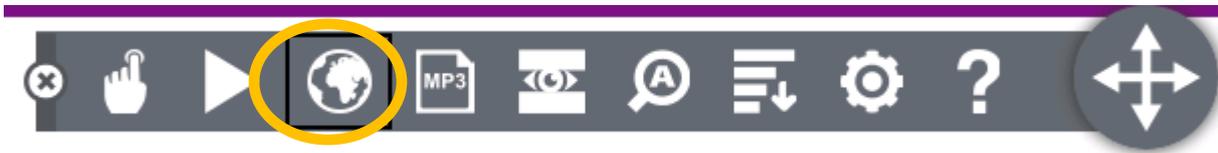


3. It will appear on screen, highlighted as below:

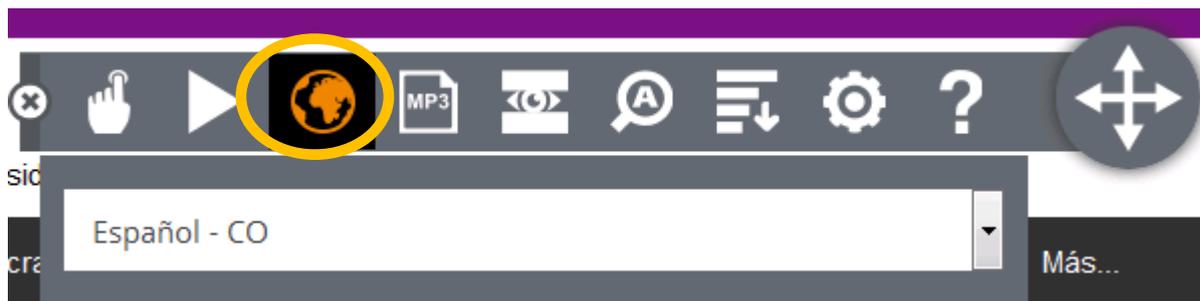
A screenshot of a website page. At the top left, the text 'Local Offer' is displayed in a purple font. Below it, a subtitle reads 'Services for children and young people (aged 0-25) with special educational needs and disabilities.' A navigation bar contains links: 'Local Offer home', 'What is the Local Offer?', 'Get involved', 'What's on?', 'Glossary', and 'Education, Health and Care (EHC)'. Below the navigation bar, the heading 'What is the Local Offer?' is shown in a blue box with yellow text. To the right of this heading are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Google+, Tumblr, Email, Print, and a plus sign. Below the heading, the text reads 'The Local Offer publishes services available for children and young people (aged 0-25) with special educational needs and disabilities.' At the bottom right, there is a link labeled 'Back to' with a horizontal line underneath it. The Browsealoud toolbar is visible at the top right of the page, with the 'speak mode' icon (a hand with a finger pointing) highlighted with a yellow box.

Translate into another language

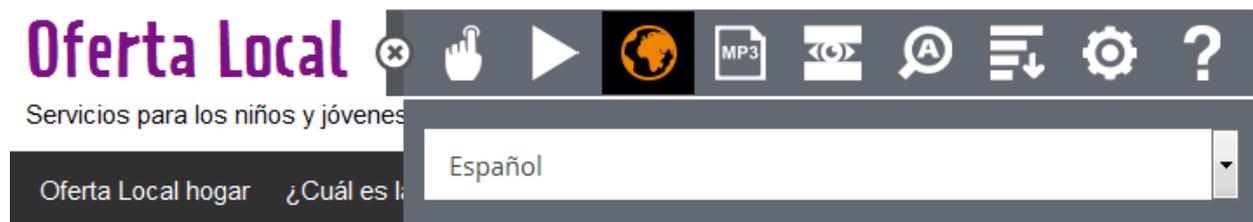
1. To do this, first select the world button:



2. The dropdown will appear to select another language:



3. Select the language you would like to translate into, the page will now show in the language you selected, e.g. Spanish



¿Cuál es la oferta local?



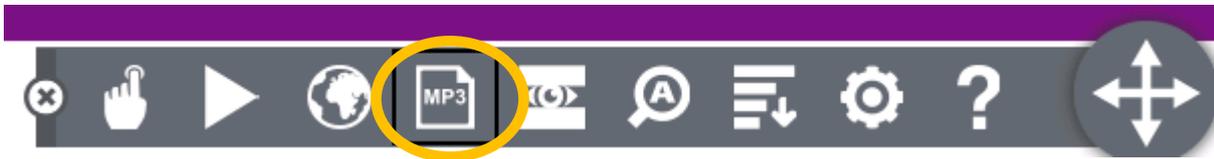
La Oferta Local publica servicios disponibles para los niños y jóvenes (0-25 años) con necesidades y discapacidades educativas especiales.

Nosotros, y el resto de las autoridades locales, la obligación de publicar esta información a través de:

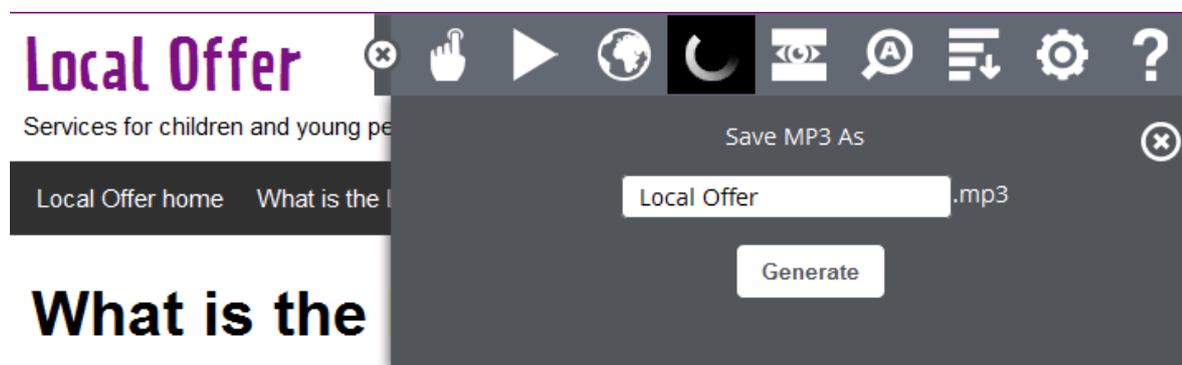
- [Niños y Familias de la Ley 2014](#)

Create an MP3 file

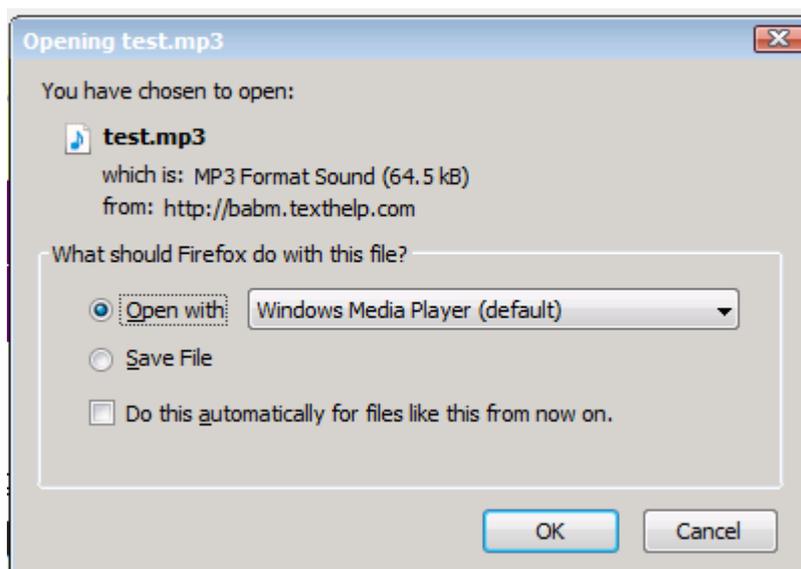
1. Highlight the text you would like to record
2. Click on the MP3 button on the widget:



3. This will show the following screen. Choose a name for the file and click 'generate'.



4. This window will pop up on your screen. You can choose whether to save or open the file.



Use a screen mask

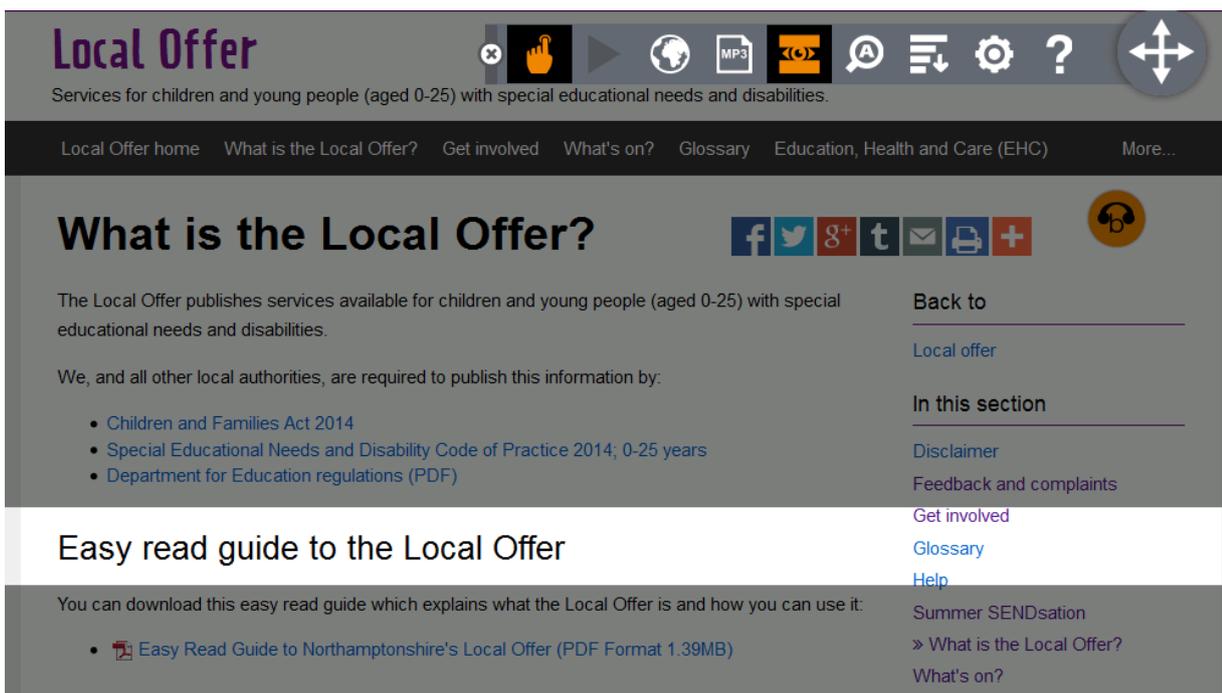
The screen mask allows you to focus on the paragraph you are trying to read and reduces distractions on the page.

The white highlighter bar allows you to apply focus and 'black out' the remaining text, the bar moves with you as you scroll.

1. To activate the screen mark, select this button:



2. Once activated it will highlight text on your screen to help you focus:



3. You can move the area highlighted by hovering over another area of the page

Magnify the text

1. To do this, first select the text you wish to enlarge
2. Then select the magnifying glass symbol:



3. Once selected the screen will change to show the highlighted text at the top of the page, it will also read it you.



Local Offer

[Services for children and young people \(aged 0-25\) with special educational needs and disabilities](#)

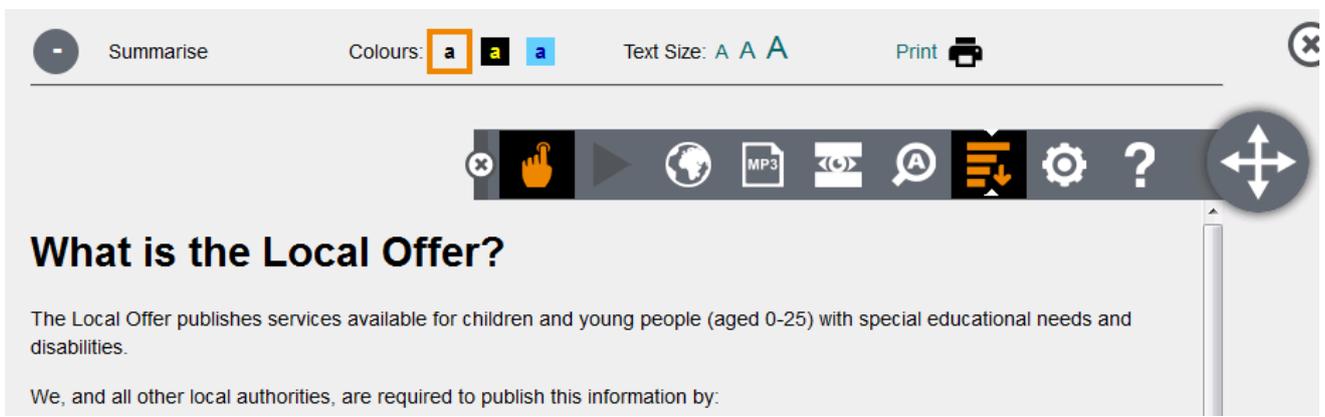
Simplify the page

This option removes 'clutter' from the page, showing just the text rather than pictures and formatting allowing you a clearer focus on the information.

1. To do this, select the symbol which looks four horizontal bars:



2. The page then appears in the simplified format:

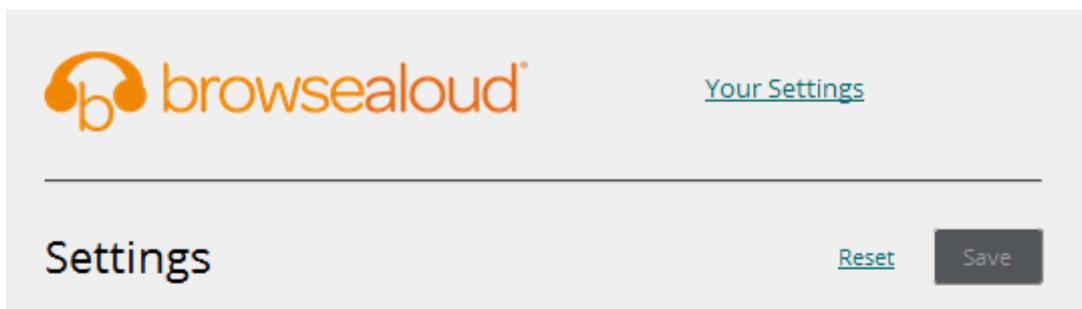


Changing the settings

1. To change the settings, select the cog symbol.

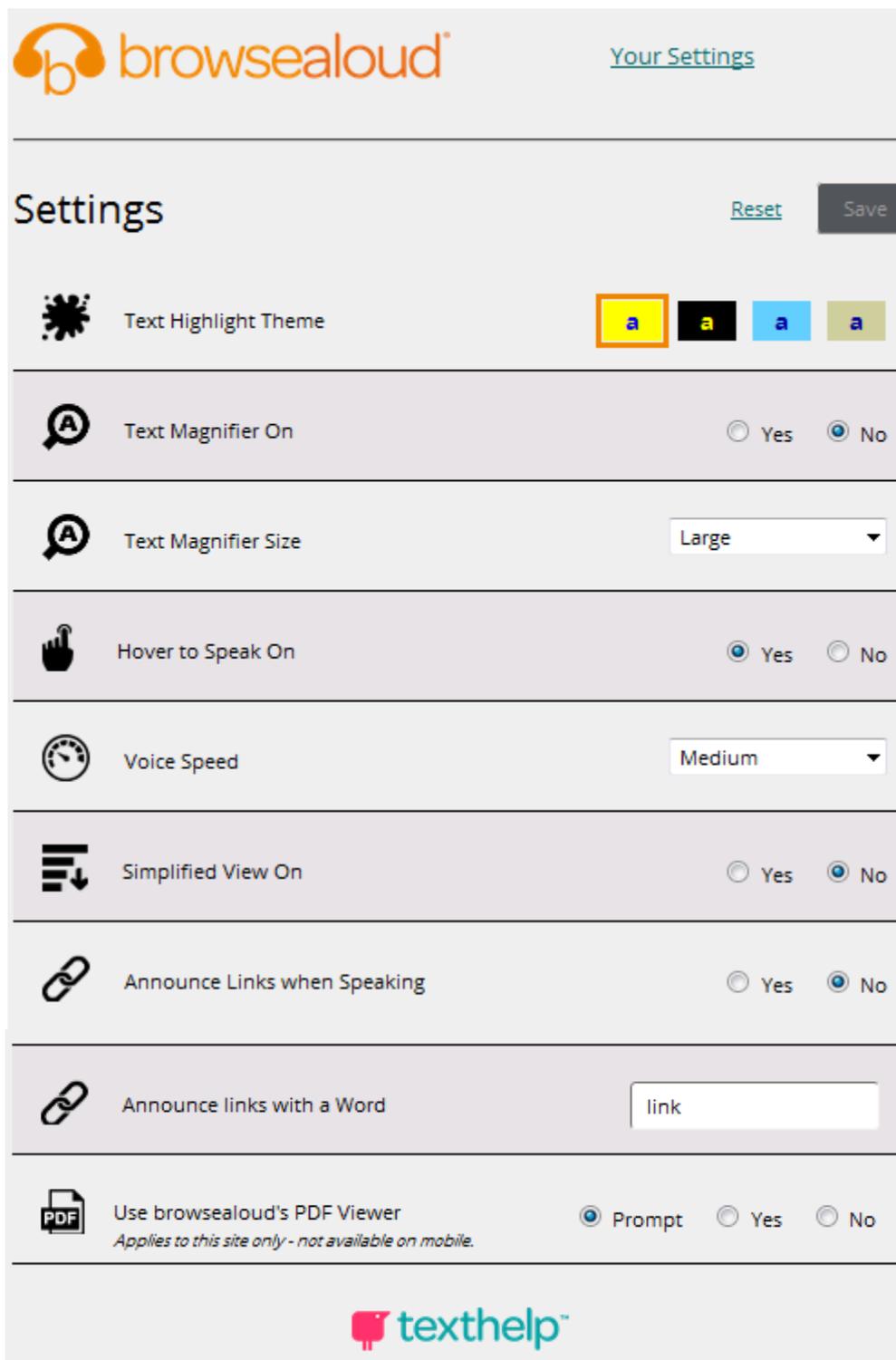


2. It will display a list of Browsealoud settings you can change, to customise your widget.



3. There are a number of settings you can change, including:

- Change the highlighter colour
- Activate the text magnifier, determine magnification size
- Decide if it speaks to you when you hover over the text and at what speed
- Whether 'simplified' view is always applied
- If you want links to be read out to you and if documents are opened in Browsealoud viewer automatically



Help

If you would like further help you can use the on-board help function:



The help button offers explanation on what each function does:

A help menu overlay with a dark background. At the top, it says "Please note: Not all features are available at all times within browsealoud" with a close button (X). Below this is a list of functions, each with an icon and a description:

- starts reading the page out loud - this feature is on by default
- starts reading selected text or reads from the top of the page
- provides written and spoken translations in multiple languages
- converts selected text into an MP3
- blocks distractions on screen with a tinted mask
- enlarges text and reads it out loud
- removes clutter from the screen, displaying only the main text
- customise options to suit individual needs or preferences
- show a simple help page that explains what the browsealoud toolbar does

Contact us

If you need the information on the Local Offer in a format that Browsealoud cannot provide, please get in touch.

The Local Offer Team can be contacted by:

Telephone: 0300 126 1000 (option 5)

Email: localoffer@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/lonorthants

Twitter: [@LONorthants](https://twitter.com/LONorthants)

