

Dyslexia

What is it?

Dyslexia is sometimes referred to as a specific learning difficulty. Dyslexia is evident when accurate and fluent reading and/or spelling develops very incompletely or with great difficulty. This focuses on literacy learning at the word level and implies that the problem is severe and persistent despite appropriate learning opportunities.

How to identify?

1. Difficulty rhyming/finding sounds in spoken words, 2. Difficulty connecting a sound a sound to symbol/segmenting the syllables or onset & rime. 3. Slow and laboured reading aloud. 4. Poor understanding of what has been read, 5. Complains of reading making his/her eyes hurt. 6. Letter confusion/perception. 7. Poor handwriting. 8. Difficulty with spelling rules and bizarre spelling. 9. Difficulty with patterns processes and sequences. 10. Difficulty and spatial issues. 11. Delay tactics, incompleteness, refusal, and behaviour issues.

Effective strategies to help?

Make all learning multi-sensory. Make learning personal and meaningful allowing for pupil input. Chunk and repeat instructions and information. Pupils should 'over learn' the material. Never move on until the pupil is secure. Remember that self-esteem should be kept high through a combination of all these strategies.

Useful links

<http://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/> - British Dyslexia Association

<http://www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/> - Dyslexia Action

<http://www.barringtonstoke.co.uk/> - excellent reading books for reluctant readers.

High interest /low reading age, with some illustration.

<http://www.taskmasteronline.co.uk/> - great games accessories and equipment.

<http://www.crossboweducation.com/> - Especially for dyslexia and spld resources.