

# Special Educational Needs and Disability



## Dyslexia

### Dyslexia

**Dyslexia is a common learning difficulty that can cause problems with reading, writing and spelling.**

It's a "specific learning difficulty", which means it causes problems with certain abilities used for learning, such as reading and writing. Unlike a learning disability, intelligence isn't affected.

It's estimated that up to 1 in every 10 to 20 people in the UK has some degree of dyslexia.

Dyslexia is a lifelong problem that can present challenges on a daily basis, but support is available to improve reading and writing skills and help those with the problem be successful at school and work.

### Key facts about Dyslexia

A person with dyslexia may:

- read and write very slowly
- confuse the order of letters in words
- put letters the wrong way round – such as writing "b" instead of "d"
- have poor or inconsistent spelling
- understand information when told verbally, but have difficulty with information that's written down
- find it hard to carry out a sequence of directions
- struggle with planning and organisation
- find the school day stressful and be at risk of becoming disengaged.

However, people with dyslexia often have good skills in other areas, such as creative thinking and problem solving.

People with dyslexia may face difficulties including :

- phonological awareness, verbal memory and verbal processing speed.
- some aspects of language, motor coordination, mental calculation, concentration and personal organisation.
- listening, reading and writing. They typically prefer 'seeing', 'feeling', 'discussing' and 'doing'.
- developing good handwriting and spelling skills.
- Retaining information, remembering one day and not the next.
- learning strings of facts automatically, e.g. multiplication tables, a timeline of dates (including days of the week, months of the year), spelling lists etc.



Further information:

British Dyslexia Association

<http://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk>

Nessy Learning Ltd

<https://www.nessy.com/uk>

### Ways to support a child with dyslexia

Using coloured paper to write on and a coloured reading ruler for reading. (The appropriate colour can be determined by an optometrist.)

Using different coloured pens to highlight key words, sections of text and letter strings when learning spellings.

Using dyslexia friendly fonts e.g. CCW cursive, comic sans and century gothic. Also, use size 14 fonts and 1.5 line spacing.

Using learning partners and reading buddies.

Teaching strategies for learning strings of facts automatically, e.g. Alphabetical order, multiplication tables and spellings using different colours, rhymes and songs.



### Classroom strategies used to support pupils with Dyslexia

- Have a broad curriculum where pupils can succeed in
- Seat these pupils at the front of the class.
- Use visual prompts, checklists and diaries to support learning.
- Avoid copying from the board, reciting times tables, reading aloud.
- Teach note-taking and planning skills e.g. Spidergrams.
- Chunk instructions.
- Display key words and subject specific words .
- Use alternative ways of recording e.g. Voice recorders, writing frames and scribes.
- Label classroom resources clearly.
- Use a 'help' card so pupil can indicate if help is needed.
- Allow extra time for tasks if necessary and provide regular breaks from a long task.

### **What to do if you have concerns:**

- Speak to the class teacher
- Speak to the SENCo
- Speak to the Head Teacher

Contact the school office if you need to make an appointment: 01562 67742

Please remember we are always here to listen and answer any questions you may have.



### **Links to help you;**

**Our school website has more information to guide you with your child's education, including the SEND and**

**Inclusion policy and our SEND Information Report**

**Visit us at:**

**[www.suttonparkrsa.co.uk](http://www.suttonparkrsa.co.uk)**