

Dyslexia

Dyslexia is defined by the British Dyslexic Association (BDA) as being a **specific learning difficulty** which primarily affects reading and writing skills. However, it does not only affect these skills. Dyslexia is about information processing.

Some difficulties associated with dyslexia include:

- Problems with reading, taking notes, remembering numbers, names and details.
- Difficulties with time keeping, organising work or managing projects.
- Difficulties with spelling and writing (not just getting b and d mixed up!)
- Short term memory problems and sequencing difficulties such as following instructions or directions.



It is a good idea to raise any concerns with your child's class teacher. They will be able to discuss any difficulties and strategies that have been put in place to support. Some strategies include (but are not limited to):

- ✓ Using tinted paper or backgrounds on learning materials.
- ✓ Using specific dyslexia friendly fonts which are easier to read.
- ✓ Visual task planners to support organisation.
- ✓ Recording ideas in different ways, such as mind maps or with a voice recorder.
- ✓ Writing frames to help organise ideas.
- ✓ Desktop aids such as multiplication facts or spelling words.
- ✓ Information broken down into smaller, manageable chunks.
- ✓ Regular check-ins from an adult.
- ✓ Collaborative working with peers.



The class teacher may also write an Initial Support Plan to ensure all adults working with your child know the areas they find challenging and the strategies in place to support them.

In some cases, further reasonable adjustments will be made to ensure your child is able to access their learning successfully (see SEN Support factsheet).

We offer dyslexia screening. Whilst this does not offer a diagnosis of dyslexia, it does identify the **probability** of dyslexic traits. The diagnosis of dyslexia can only be undertaken by a registered professional. Dyslexia is not screened for or diagnosed until after a child turns 7.