

SEND Coffee Morning Dyslexia



11/2/25

What is Dyslexia?

Dyslexia is a specific learning difficulty which primarily affects reading and writing skills. However, it does not only affect these skills. Dyslexia is actually about information processing. Dyslexic people may have difficulty processing and remembering information they see and hear, which can affect learning and the acquisition of literacy skills. Dyslexia can also impact on other areas such as organisational skills.

Area of need on the SEND list – Dyslexia can fit into two different areas of need including; Communication and Interaction and Cognition and Learning.

Even though children can begin to show signs of dyslexia from a young age, it is typically not diagnosed until around 6 years old. That said, some children will not be diagnosed during their school years.

Dyslexia affects each individual differently, however, there are some signs that you can look out for in your child which may indicate dyslexia. These include:

- Difficulty following instructions
- Forgetful with words or unable to recognise words that are familiar to them
- Stronger oral skills than written work
- Poor comprehension skills
- Disorganised

If school have a concern about a pupils Communication and Language skills or Cognition and Learning, an IC (Initial Concern) form will be completed and shared with parents.

If, after an assessment cycle the strategies which the teacher has used to support the pupil are not having an impact, then that pupil will have an EH (Early Help) opened.

Once an EH is opened, they may be referred to a specialist service to be observed.

Teachers and learning support staff will use the strategies which have been suggested by the specialist. (Woodbridge SEND support service)

If the suggested strategies are still not having a positive impact on the pupils learning and they are not making the expected progress after 2/3 assessment cycles, the child may be further referred to another specialist.

If the specialist sees dyslexic traits, the child/pupil may be screened for Dyslexia or the child/pupil may complete an Irlen screening with the SENDCo.

Both of these tests will determine specific/more streamlined strategies to use with the pupil which will work to ensure they are able to access a full curriculum.

Strategies that may be implemented include;

- The use of multi-sensory teaching approaches.
- Giving pupils adequate thinking time before expecting a response.
- Use of alternative means of recording for example mind maps, ICT, verbal responses, diagrams.
- Use of effective adaptive teaching.
- All pupils are able to see the board easily.
- All students have space to write comfortably.
- Use of a pastel background on the whiteboard to avoid glare.
- Use of colourful visuals and large font used to highlight keywords.
- Parental involvement in planning, learning and decision-making.
- Screening programmes and early intervention programmes in place.
- Marking is based on knowledge rather than the presentation of work/spellings etc.
- Effective use of ICT to support pupils.
- Use handouts to avoid pupils with dyslexia having to copy large amounts of writing from the board.
- Chunking instructions and tasks to reduce the reliance placed on working memory.

If a child/pupil needs help and support with other areas of their learning which are also impacting the progress that they make.

An EHCP application may be considered.

A wealth of evidence has to be collected for an EHCP application. The evidence comes from specialists (Educational Psychologist) reports and observations, specialist interventions (Woodbridge SEND service), class teacher comments, parent comments and SENDCo comments.

At Brownlow Fold we offer support and interventions to children who have been provided with strategies linked to Dyslexia.

Learning support staff deliver the interventions to our pupils to ensure they are making progress with their learning and are able to access the full curriculum.

Class teachers also implement strategies into everyday teaching and learning.



Does anyone have any questions?

The next SEND Coffee morning is on 1/4/25