

General Indicators of Dyslexia

This list is not exhaustive and should not be used as a screening tool:

- Verbal abilities do not match written work
- Struggles to remember and understand what has been read
- Inconsistent spelling; spells the same word in a variety of ways
- Appears to have poor concentration
- Confuses left and right
- Struggles with phonics and learning letter, sound rules
- Struggles to copy information when copying from the board
- Difficulties planning and writing essays, letters and reports
- Feels that the effort put into work does not reflect the performance results
- Struggles with personal organisation
- Lacks confidence in own abilities; poor self-esteem

Tips and Strategies

- Use a spellchecker
- Take regular breaks when studying
- Eat a healthy diet; effective brain function depends on this
- Sleep and rest well
- Use a diary to organise and remember things
- Ask for information to be repeated
- Use your phone to set appointment and other reminders
- Use a ruler or other marker to help keep your place when reading
- Use mind maps to organise your thoughts and help you remember information

- Use colour coding to help you recall information
- Work at your own pace
- Ask for help and accept support that may be offered.

Famous people with Dyslexia

- John Lennon
- Agatha Christie
- Leonardo Da Vinci
- Ann Bancroft
- Cher
- Tom Cruise
- Whoopi Goldberg
- Anthony Hopkins

Richard Branson is a British entrepreneur and businessperson; he set up and runs many `Virgin` businesses from airlines to cola drinks. He says: "You`ve got one go in life, so, make the most of it". Those are the words that mean so much to Richard Branson, as they go right to the heart of his belief in making it on your own. Now, head of 150 or so enterprises that carry the Virgin name, with the personal wealth estimated at nearly \$3 billion, he has followed that personal dream and made the most of it. He still holds the record as fastest to cross the Atlantic Ocean by boat. He still hopes to circle the globe in a balloon; it is a success that was never expected for a dyslexic, near sighted boy!

Judith Bell

**Irlen Dyslexia Centre
North West Lancashire**

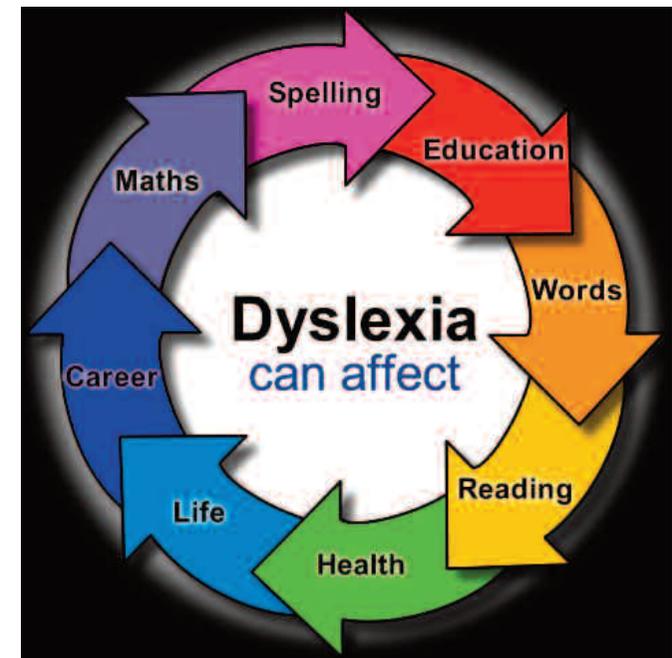
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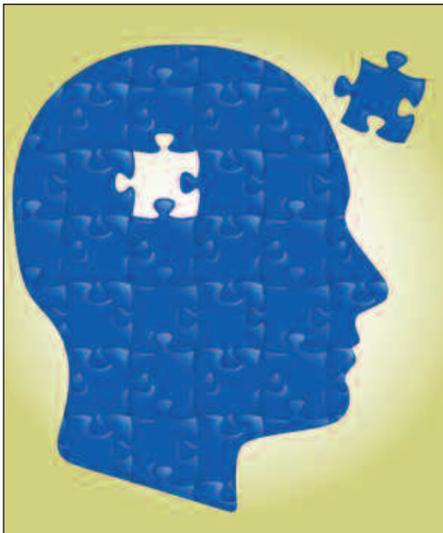
Dyslexia Information



Definition

Dyslexia is a specific learning difficulty, which mainly affects the development of literacy and language related skills. It is likely to be present at birth and to be life-long in its effects. It is characterised by difficulties with phonological processing, rapid naming, working memory, processing speed, and the automatic development of skills that may not match up to an individual's other cognitive abilities (British Dyslexia Association).

People who are dyslexic can have **many strengths**. They are often creative and imaginative, being able to see the big picture. They often have good verbal skills and problem solving abilities. It is no coincidence that among the rich, famous and successful there are many dyslexics.



Assessment can help you to find that missing piece to learning.

Dyslexia Assessment

The centre offers full diagnostic assessment carried out by a fully qualified specialist teacher/assessor who has a current CRB certificate and a practising certificate issued by Patoss – number 50000406 IF2755.

The assessments are carried out at the centre in a quiet, comfortable environment. Parents may stay with their child if they wish.

The earlier you can identify dyslexic tendencies, the sooner you can achieve your academic potential and boost self-esteem.

As a specialist teacher/assessor the assessment carried out is legally recognised and produces written evidence required to initiate additional support for children, Access Arrangements (Exam Concessions) for teenagers and support for the disabled student's allowance (DSA).

A dyslexia assessment involves discussion about education history and development and includes a series of standardised psychometric tests to measure visual and verbal intelligence, phonological awareness, reading and spelling.



We can help you to learn by identifying your strengths and weaknesses.

After the assessment the results are analysed and a comprehensive confidential report is provided. The report contains details of the results, outlines strengths and weaknesses, suggests recommendations for support and indicates whether there is a specific learning difficulty, such as dyslexia.

The assessment may also highlight other specific learning difficulties such as:

- Dyscalculia
- Dyspraxia Developmental Co-ordination Disorder (DCD)
- Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)
- Irlen® Syndrome (visual stress)



Further information and advice please contact Judith Bell on 01204 88 2916

More Useful Contacts

- British Dyslexia Association (BDA)
National Helpline 0845 251 9002
www.bdadyslexia.org.uk
- The professional Association of Teachers of Students with Specific Learning Difficulties (PATOSS) Tel: 01386 712650
www.patoss-dyslexia.org