

# Supporting a Dyslexic Pupil and what is a Dyslexia friendly school

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# Definition of Dyslexia

The British Dyslexia Association has adopted the Rose (2009) definition of dyslexia:

Dyslexia is a learning difficulty that primarily affects the skills involved in accurate and fluent word reading and spelling. Characteristic features of dyslexia are difficulties in phonological awareness, verbal memory and verbal processing speed. Dyslexia occurs across the range of intellectual abilities. It is best thought of as a continuum, not a distinct category, and there are no clear cut-off points. Co-occurring difficulties may be seen in aspects of language, motor co-ordination, mental calculation, concentration and personal organisation, but these are not, by themselves, markers of dyslexia. A good indication of the severity and persistence of dyslexic difficulties can be gained by examining how the individual responds or has responded to well-founded intervention.



Why Students struggle





- Confidence (I don't believe I can do it)
- It is dull (We have already learnt the information before)
- Confidence (I don't believe I can do it)
- Attention (distraction)
- Confidence (I don't believe I can do it)
- Lonely (hours on your own)
- Confidence (I don't believe I can do it)
- They only know one way or don't know how to revise
- Confidence (I don't believe I can do it)
- Lack of motivation
- Confidence (I don't believe I can do it)
- Can't see the point
- Confidence (I don't believe I can do it)



Confidence (I don't believe I can do it)

# If we don't believe they can do it, they won't believe they can do it!





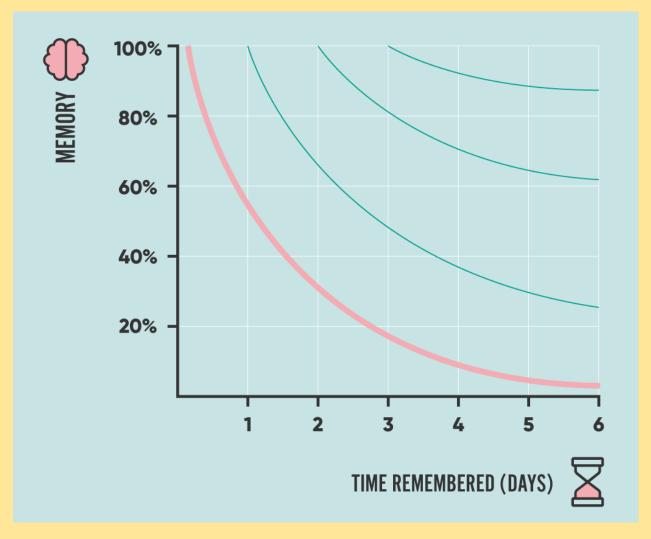
- Early intervention for emotional difficulties improves outcomes for children, families and wider society including:
  - increased learning and educational attainment;
  - improved behaviour and attendance at school;
  - better physical health;
  - improved long-term mental health.
- Vulnerable pupils who often leave us feel de-skilled and/or frustrated. Don't give up!
- Not giving up on yourself as the adult can help them to do better than you might have expected. Keep going!
- At least one trusted adult, with regular access over time, who lets the pupils they 'hold in mind' know that they care.



Memory and How we Learn



### Remembering over time vs each time you learn something



# Types of Memory

# The Park Academies Trust

"I suffer from short-term remembery loss."

#### **Short term**

- Working memory
- Short term verbal and visual memory

### **Long Term**

- Autobiographical
- Semantic
- Episodic
- Procedural





### Verbal short-term memory

- Also known as Auditory Memory or Phonological Loop. This is one of the key indicators of dyslexia.
- Link between verbal memory and ability to learn new sounds and vocabulary.

# Visuo-spatial short term memory

- Looking at pictures, symbols, diagrams.
- Used to learning new letter shapes.
- Short term memory for visual and spatial information (parallel parking!!).

## Building confidence

(I can't remember anything!!!)



- Autobiographical personal facts, significant events.
- Semantic information about the world.
- Episodic specific events that have happened recently.
- Procedural skills learnt e.g. riding a bike, driving a car, swimming, juggling.

Memory	Type
The last holiday you went on	
How to use an x-box	
Remembering a list of things to get from upstairs	
Your best friend's name	
Remembering how to get from your English class to your	
Maths class	
Calculating 10% of 100	
Is there milk in the fridge?	
What you need to buy from the shop	
Parent's Birthday	
Stopping before crossing the road	



### The Brain

Left	THE	Right
hemisphere	BRAIN	hemisphere
Words		Rhythm
Logic		Spatial
Numbers		awareness
Sequence		Imagination
Linearity		Colour
Analysis		Dimension
Lists		

We are multi-sensory learners!



Dyslexia Friendly good practice to support inclusion

Cognition and	d Learning Overview Provision Map	
Universal Provision (Inclusive High-Quality Teaching)	Intervention (Cause of Concern) FS-Y6	SEND Provision
Reading/phonics:	Pre-teaching (FS-Y2) using Widgit	Early English Intervention
Hearing check. Vision check.	Over teaching (F5-Y2)	for lower K52.
	2minute spelling (with visuals)/2 minute	
Reading:	phonics	Targeted Guided Reading
Whole class guided reading		for specific pupils:
Making sure that children and have a reading book plus	Barrington-Stoke books in the KS2 library	Ie ToD Y5/Y6: focus on one
a phonic based book (that is matched to their phonic		paper for 3×30mins
knowledge). Changed weekly in FS-Y2.	Visual stress assessment	sessions. Plus Widgit grids
Daily sentence reading in phonics lessons in Year 1.		and carefully structured
Children individual reading once a week.	Y1-Sound Check (phonics)	DERIC questions.
DERIC	Early English Intervention by Dawn	
Adapted Ashley Booth Guided Reading programme 3x	Targeted daily Readers - F5-Y6	
week (Y3-Y6) ensuring wide range of genres		SBI: Precision
Twenty mins a day reading class reader (Reading Spine	Daily phonics pre/post	Reading/Spelling
books) with a story maps to introduce the character,		
settings and plot.	Precision Reading/Spelling	SBI: Widgit grids for
Always start with quick start retrieval questions and		Maths, English, Class
then focused on a skill.	Booster groups for reading (after school)	reading, Topic, Enquiry.
Class Reader-guided reading 2x weekly (Y3-Y6)	Y5/Y6	
differentiated three ways.		Corrective reading Y5/6
Differentiated Timed Comprehension to build up the	List of names for targeted support in class.	
children's stamina (fortnightly) Y2-Y6		Morphographs Y5/6
Y2- Guided reading: 3x week = skills, 2x week	Effective use of TAs	
comprehension.		

#### Spelling:

Weekly spelling rule teaching in class

Strategies for spelling: mnemonics, rainbow writing, multi-sensory spelling (e.g sand, shaving foam, water outside etc) speed spell

Daily revision during phonics lesson

Spelling posters in class- with visuals (pictorial

reminders) on washing lines

Spelling lists/ personalised dictionaries

Vocabulary lists/widget grids

Word of the day (origins of words)

Which part of the word do you find tricky?

Spellzone (Read, write, inc)

Dictionaries/thesaurus/siri

Spelling roadmap (linking word patterns)

Mystery words in spelling tests (to encourage learning

the rule)

Working walls (nag bag/list)

Help yourself display (HFW mats, year group spelling mats)

Year 1 - sound check

Year 2- Intervention for children who didn't pass the year 1 screening check

Early English Intervention with 1:1 TA

Year 3/4

2 minute spelling

Children specific/individualised spelling Visual aids/mats for specific spellings

Widget Grids

Dyslexia screening

Year 5/6

2 minute spelling

Children specific/individualised spelling

Visual aids/mats for specific spellings

Widget Grids

Children
specific/individualised
spelling

Clicker- word banks

Speed spell

Morphographs

**IEP** targets

Precision spelling

Cognition and Learning Overview Provision Map

Universal Provision (Inclusive High-Quality Teaching)	Intervention (Cause of Concern)	SEND Provision
	FS-Y6	
Writing/recording/handwriting:	All:	
All:	Buff paper	SPARKs (timetabled + PE)
www.printablepaper.net	Use of technology - "Books",	Referral to OT
Highlighted tramlines	"PicCollage"	Refer to Advisory Specialist
Say, write, check	Personalised spellings	teacher
Help Yourself Area	Engaging their interests	Personalised spellings
Shared writing, guided writing		Personal packs; overlay, word
Talk for Writing - mapping out text (actions and	EYFS:	banks, equipment, checklist,
pictures)	Name practise:	chunked tasks, alphabet strip
Stimulus for writing; experience personally	Cut up letters of name: piece	Colourful Semantics
Alphabet on the wall - BSL	together, drive car to letters in	
PALS display on working wall	order.	
Learning patterns, Dough Gym, Squiggle while you wiggle	SPARKEYs	
Trays - sand, shaving foam, glitter		Pencil grips
Word bank within Clicker (Phoneme mats; universal in	K51:	Writing slopes
KS1 - if needed in KS2)	Talking Tim	Trays - sand, shaving foam, glitter
Model Texts (WAGOLL/WABOLL), working wall grammar	Dough Disco	Scribing
Structure strips	Squiggle while you wiggle	Specialist pens and pencils
Slow write	Fine motor support	
Exercises for strengthening fine and gross motor skills-	Concrete sentence structure; use of	
Strength games; tug of war, chair push-ups, stress ball,	gems to hold a sentence. Amount of	
shoulder push ups	resources to match amount of	
Checking that children are in the right seating position	words within the sentence.	
with the correct paper & pencil angles and grips	Learning Patterns	



### Techniques that Might Work for a Dyslexic Student



### How to Remember

- Make a conscious effort.
- Memory by association.
- Repetition.
- Chunking, e.g.

Anti dis es tab lish ment ari an ism

- Rhythm (Oo an agh)
- BECAUSE.

### Written work







The Park
Academies Trust

- House rooms.
- Not on your own.
- Post-it notes.
- Board marker on glass.
- Walking the dog.
- Focus revision around the examination board syllabus.
- Past exam papers.
- Revision guides.
- Blank cards/index cards.
- Rewards (treats!).
- Condensed notes.
- Textbooks and notes don't just read them!
- Adverts.







**Highlighter pens** – only help identify key points, they should only be the first step!

There is no evidence to suggest that highlighted text will help you remember it in and of itself. If you highlight 80% it doesn't help at all.

Don't just copy chunks of text - it should be a selective process that reduces the notes down until a topic is on one sheet of paper.

posing ideas. Avoiding ideas that conflict with your own gives the reader the impression you may be uncertain, fearful, or unaware of opposing ideas. Thus, it is essential that you not only address counterarguments, but also do so respectfully.

Try to address opposing arguments earlier rather than later in your essay. Rhetorically speaking, ordering your positive arguments last allows you to better to address ideas that conflict with your own, so you can spend the rest of the essay countering those arguments. This way, you leave your reader thinking about your argument rather than someone else's. You utter the last word.

Acknowledging points of view different from your own also has the effect of fostering more credibility between you and the audience. They know from the outset you are aware of opposing ideas and that you are not afraid to give them space. Although your opponents' ideas may differ from your own,



### Managing Your Well-being





- Eat sensibly and stay hydrated.
- Music.
- Sleep.
- Exercise
- Reduce large amounts of material to small "bite-sized" chunks.
- Reduce the size of notes each time you over learn.
- Use a cooking timer or a clock with a board marker.

### **MNEMONICS**

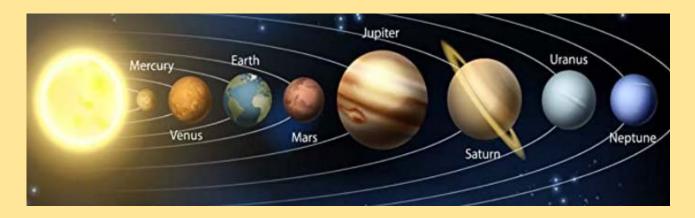


What is a mnemonic? It is a device to assist your memory – a verse, picture, silly phrase, etc.

Richard Of York Gave Battle In Vain



My Very Educated Mother Just Served Us Noodles





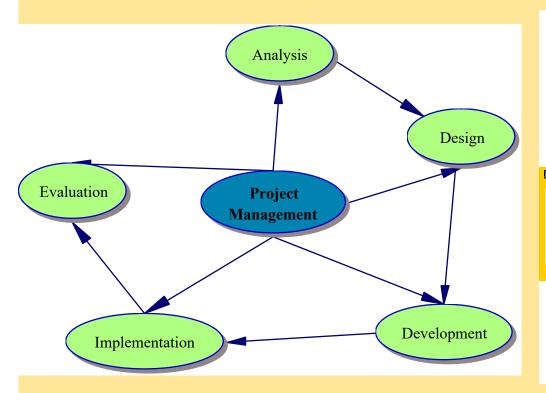
# Mind-mapping

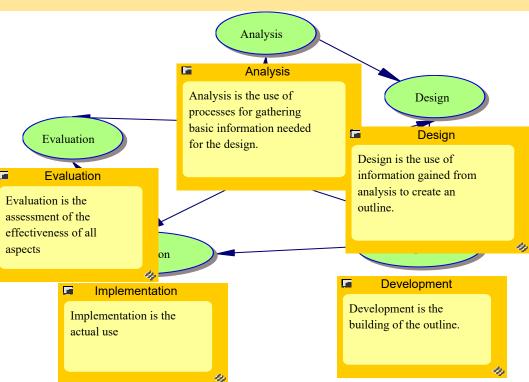
"By freeing the child of the tyranny of semantics, which often accounts for 90 percent of the difficulty, the mind map allows the child a far more natural, complete and accelerated self—expression." (Buzan 2003, p192)



# Mind-mapping

Mind maps use several visual stimuli to portray information and create strong association bonds between categories and subcategories.











## Test technique

- Take a highlighter into the exam so that you can emphasise key words.
- Read the exam paper carefully answer the number of questions that are required.
- Write your name on the paper!!!
- **Time yourself** a superb first answer will not make up for failing to answer your last question.
- Use of Brain Breaks and Extra time
- Check your answers for accuracy and clarity this is not a waste of time.
- Be aware of the number of marks available for each part of a question.
- **Do not panic** if you are prepared you will be able to answer the test, even if at first you think you cannot.
- Remember that the examiner could have hundreds of papers to mark. If your handwriting is poor use a computer as your normal way of working.
- Take rest breaks.

## Other Support

**British Dyslexia Association** 

https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/