

Information For Parents



As a parent it can be disheartening to watch your once enthusiastic, smiling child become frustrated, angry or sometimes depressed because they cannot do what seems to come naturally to other children at school - read, write, spell and use numbers.

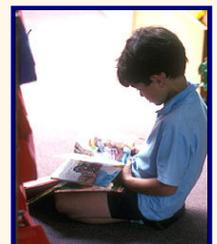
You know s/he is bright enough and you can think of no reason why there should be a problem with your child's learning. So what might the problem be? Could it be dyslexia? The following might help you decide whether you should investigate further.

General

- ◆ Is fine orally but finds difficulty in learning to read, write and spell
- ◆ Has difficulty with rhyme, rhythm - shows very little awareness of sounds and how they connect to letters
- ◆ Confuses common sequences - days of the week, months etc
- ◆ May be good at practical activities involving three dimensions - e.g. lego building
- ◆ Has difficulty remembering sequences, names for common objects, doing calculations in his/her head
- ◆ Seems to have a poor concentration span for activities involving literacy and is often inattentive
- ◆ Teachers may comment that your child 'is often lazy' or 'doesn't try hard enough'
- ◆ Uses avoidance tactics to delay, defer or simply not do written tasks

Reading

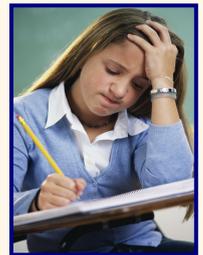
- ◆ Reading may lack expression and sound monotonic
- ◆ Loses the place, misses a line
- ◆ Misreads common words - 'was' for 'saw', 'tried' for 'tired'



- ◆ A slow reading rate can affect understanding. However, sometimes children have a good understanding despite a slow reading rate.
- ◆ Has difficulty blending letters to sounds, and sounding out words
- ◆ Sometimes misses out words or inserts words to try to make sense of the text

Written Work

- ◆ Difficulty expressing him/herself on paper as well as he/she does verbally - may have good ideas, but doesn't seem to be able to get them down on paper
- ◆ Slow laborious process
- ◆ Reversals of letters such as b,d,p,q; m,n,u
- ◆ Inconsistent spelling of the same words
- ◆ Untidy handwriting, crossing out of words
- ◆ Difficulty with writing sentences, grammar and punctuation



Although not all children with dyslexia will show the same cluster of difficulties and strengths, be aware of those that your child does have - trust your instincts. Speak to someone in the school; investigate further.

**Looking for more in-depth information?
Want to help your child at home?**

- ◆ ***Overcoming Dyslexia*** by Bevé Hornsby
- ◆ ***A Parents Survival Guide*** by Christine Ostler
- ◆ ***100 Ideas for Supporting Pupils with Dyslexia*** by G Reid and S Green
- ◆ ***Study Skills*** by Christine Ostler
- ◆ **www.dyslexic.com & www.assist-it.org.uk**
- ◆ **www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk**
- ◆ **www.dyslexiascotwest.org.uk** Covers Glasgow and surrounds

Suppliers' details for the recommended books can be obtained from:

Dyslexia Scotland

Stirling Business Centre, Wellgreen, Stirling, FK8 2DZ

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