

Dyslexia support in school

Some children take longer to learn to read and write and may need extra help, but do manage it. However, a few children find the process of learning to read, write and spell particularly hard.

Such children may have underlying problems that affect their ability to learn these skills. This is called “dyslexia”, which means “difficulty with words”. It is sometimes referred to, particularly by professionals, as a “specific learning difficulty” or “SpLD”.

The Rose report in 2009 gave this description of dyslexia which has been adopted by the British Dyslexia Association:

“Dyslexia is a learning difficulty that primarily affects the skills involved in accurate and fluent word reading and spelling.”

At Seabridge Primary, we recognise when children show these signs of dyslexia, such as difficulties with:

- reading
- writing
- spelling
- number (not always applicable)
- memory and sequencing
- organisation

However, dyslexia is not all about difficulties. Children may be good in other areas such as problem-solving, arts and PE. Every child has things they like and are good at. At Seabridge we like to discover and celebrate these strengths and work with the child to develop them. It is important to keep a child’s self esteem high.

Within class, teachers will ensure that their planning is carefully tailored to support children showing difficulties in the above areas. High quality teaching targeted at a child’s area of weakness is the first response if a child is identified as making less than expected progress for their age. This may include making small changes to the way the lesson is taught, the materials that are used, or the support given to a child during normal teaching. These are reasonable adjustments to increase a child’s access to the curriculum.

Some of these adjustments may be:

- a daily reading and spelling diary to be completed at home and in school
- work printed on pastel paper
- coloured overlays to be used when reading

- instructions broken down into manageable amounts
- lesson flipcharts with a pastel coloured background
- fluid interventions within class as and when needs arise

A small number of children need additional support. This involves a more detailed and structured teaching approach or further changes to the teaching methods to allow them to be included in lessons.

If your child's difficulties are such that they are placed on the school SEN register, the school will follow the 'Assess, Plan, Do, Review' process and set up an Individual Support Plan. You, and your child, will be involved in this. Outside agencies and specialist support may also be asked to give their advice. Your child's progress will then be regularly monitored and reviewed.

There are a number of local organisations who can offer dyslexia support:

Dyslexia Association of Staffordshire (DAS)

Studio 9 St James House
Webberley Lane
Longton
Stoke-on-Trent
ST3 1RJ

Phone: [01782 869791](tel:01782869791)

Email: das@dyslexiastaffordshire.co.uk

View their [website](#).

The British Dyslexia Association

Unit 8
Bracknell Beeches
Old Bracknell Lane
Bracknell
RG12 7BW

Phone: [333 405 4567](tel:3334054567)

View their [website](#).

Websites dedicated to dyslexia

These are not recommendations, but may be a starting point for you.

2 Simple Software: View their [website](#)

Barrington Stoke: View their [website](#)

Crick Software Ltd: View their [website](#)

Crossbow Education: View their [website](#)

Enabling Computer Supplies Ltd: View their [website](#)

Helen Arkell Dyslexia Centre: View their [website](#)

Iansyst Ltd: View their [website](#)

Inclusive Technology Ltd: View their [website](#)

LDA: View their [website](#)

Learning Materials Ltd: View their [website](#)

Multi-sensory Learning Ltd: View their [website](#)

Nessy Learning Ltd: View their [website](#)

REM: View their [website](#)

SEMERCSmart Kids (UK) Ltd: View their [website](#)

Toe-by-Toe: View their [website](#)

If you have any further questions, or wish to request a dyslexia screening test, then please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher.