

Dyslexia Awareness and Information Evening



WHAT IS DYSLEXIA?

Dyslexia is a learning disorder that affects a person's ability to spell and read words or numbers.



SIGNS OF DYSLEXIA:

- 1 Difficulty memorizing facts
- 2 Trouble with spelling
- 3 Difficulty following multi-step directions
- 4 Slower, inaccurate reading
- 5 Illegible handwriting
- 6 Confusing left and right directions

DYSLEXIA IS...

neurobiological The brain processes written and spoken information differently	language-based It is not a problem with vision
genetic Dyslexia is passed through families	common About 1 in 5 have dyslexia

Introduction

- Deputy Head Teacher : Support – Evelyn Russell
- PTS ASN(Harris House) – Clare McGregor
- Inclusion and Wellbeing Teacher – Jamie Fleming
- Advanced Pupil Support Worker– Heather MacNeill
- Literacy Service – Louise Elder and Eileen Moore



What is Dyslexia?

- Dyslexia is a learning 'difference', which means that the brain can approach things in a different way to other people.
- It is not just about reading and writing.
- It has nothing to do with intelligence.



What is Dyslexia?

- It is estimated that 1 in 10 people has dyslexia.
- Dyslexia exists in all cultures and across every range of abilities and backgrounds.
- Dyslexia often runs in the family.
- There is no 'cure' but lots of practical things can help overcome some of the barriers it presents.



Dyslexia is Rubbish – and Awesome!!

<https://youtu.be/DmE7EHNCJHk>



Why is it Rubbish?

- Unidentified, dyslexia can result in:
- Low self-esteem
- Stress
- Behavioural concerns
- Underachievement.

But...

- With the right support, early identification and targeted effective teaching...
- People with dyslexia can reach their potential.



Why it is Awesome!



Common strengths which can be experienced by individuals with dyslexia:



Can be very creative and enjoy practical tasks.



Strong visual thinking skills e.g. seeing and thinking in 3D, visualising a structure from plans.



Good verbal skills and good social interaction.



Good at problem solving, thinking outside the box, seeing the whole picture.

How Can We Help?

The School and parents/carers working together to support our dyslexic learners:

- [Effective Communication Film \(youtube.com\)](#)

The Dyslexia Testing Process in JYHS

- Staff identify student with a particular learning difference.
- SfL referral completed by staff.
- Dyslexia Screener test carried out.
- Further testing if required.
- Staff contacted for further information.
- Collation report completed.
- Student/parents/carers contacted.
- Staff informed with appropriate information/strategies
- Assessment Arrangements put in place.

How Teachers Can Help

- Seating and Grouping
- Giving Information or Instructions
- Memory – multi sensory approach
- Alternatives to written work
- Marking
- Reading
- Board work
- Know the young person



How Parents can Help

- Be Understanding
- Be Encouraging
- Be Supportive
- Be Patient
- Be Positive
- Be Organised
- Be Proud



What support is available?

Website links

Dyslexia Scotland Helpline 0344 800 8484
or helpline@dyslexiascotland.org.uk

www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk

Jamie.fleming@westlothian.org.uk

Dyslexia Awareness and Information Evening Evaluation

