Dyslexia Awareness

High Speed Training™

This Dyslexia Awareness course, supported by the Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity, will inform learners about a range of strategies that they can use in the classroom to support children with dyslexia. The course has been designed for people who work with or look after children, such as teachers, teaching assistants, childminders, and school support staff.

The course will help you to recognise the signs of dyslexia, understand its main characteristics, and learn what happens during the diagnostic process.

Module 1: Introduction to Dyslexia

This introductory module provides learners with an overview of dyslexia. Learners will look at the cause of dyslexia, address common misconceptions, and assess its strengths and challenges.

• What is dyslexia?
• Dyslexia and SpLDs
• What is neurodiversity?
• Co-occurring difficulties
• Strengths of dyslexia
• Famous people with dyslexia
• Challenges of dyslexia

Module 2: Characteristics and Impact

In this module, learners will look at the main characteristics of dyslexia, and how these impact reading, writing, and spelling. They will also find out how dyslexia can affect learning and mental health.

• Characteristics of dyslexia
• Phonological awareness
• Working memory and phonological memory
• Processing speed and phonological processing speed
• The simple view of reading model
• Reading and dyslexia
• Impact of dyslexia on reading
• The simple view of writing model
• Writing and dyslexia
• Impact of dyslexia on writing
• Impact of dyslexia on spelling
• Impact of dyslexia on learning
• Impact of dyslexia on mental health

Module 3: Spotting the Signs

In this module, learners will look at the common signs which may indicate a child has dyslexia. They will also find out about vision and hearing problems which often co-occur with dyslexia.

• Early years: common signs
• Primary age: common signs
• Secondary age: common signs
• Key transitions: common signs
• Hearing and vision problems
• Auditory processing disorder (APD)
• Visual stress

Module 4: Action and Assessment

Here, learners will understand the steps they need to take if they recognise the signs of dyslexia and they will also be introduced to the diagnostic assessment process. They will also find out how to use The Graduated Approach when responding to the needs of the children and young people they look after.

• Dyslexia and the law
• The Graduated Approach
• The Graduated Approach - assess
• A personalised approach
• Speaking to the SENCo
• Screening
• Diagnostic assessments for dyslexia
• The Graduated Approach - plan
• The Provision Framework
• The Graduated Approach - do and review

Module 5: Practical Classroom Strategies

In this final module, learners will be introduced to a range of strategies that they can embed into their daily practice to support children and young people with dyslexia. They will also have access to two downloads: A Parent and Carers' Guide to Supporting Dyslexia at Home and Technology to Support Dyslexia. Learners can also access additional content designed specifically for those supporting children in the Early Years, Key Stage 1, and those working within the engagement model.

• The importance of early identification and support
• Creating an inclusive environment
• High-quality teaching strategies
• Supporting reading
• Supporting writing
• Supporting word level work
• Supporting maths
• Using technology to support dyslexia
• Parental engagement
• Optional content:
  ◦ Phonological awareness
  ◦ Sound manipulation
  ◦ Sentence segmenting
  ◦ Rhyme and alliteration
  ◦ Syllables
  ◦ Phonemic awareness
  ◦ Multi-sensory activities
  ◦ Handwriting

Aims of the training

By the end of this course, you will understand:

- What dyslexia is and how it impacts children's learning and their day-to-day life.
- The characteristic traits of dyslexia.
- The signs of dyslexia in children at an early age, during their primary years, and in teenagers, and what you should do if you believe a child has dyslexia.
- The process of having a child tested for dyslexia.
- How to ensure children with dyslexia thrive at school and at home.