

Reading Strategies

The more children can be read with (both at home and school) the better: tackle challenging words together, before a child attempts to read independently. A good strategy for reading new texts is to read it to them first time, together second time and then finally they can read it independently.

Praise

A person with Dyslexia needs a boost to their self-confidence before they can learn to overcome their difficulties. To re-establish self-confidence provide the opportunity to succeed and give praise for small achievements.

Read Regularly

Even though a child with dyslexia may struggle to read, reading regularly will keep their interest up. If they enjoy listening to stories or non-fiction texts, hopefully the desire to read will remain strong.

Speak to text software

It can be frustrating for children with dyslexia to be able to get ideas down on paper. A voice memo app can record what the child wants to say, so they can write it down at a later stage.

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Ways to help with Dyslexia

Dyslexic Fonts and Backgrounds

There has been a number of fonts developed to support children with their reading. One which is on many computer programmes including Microsoft Office is OpenDyslexic. Additionally children with Dyslexia find it easier to read off paper or a background that is a different colour e.g. blue. If coloured paper is unavailable then coloured overlays also help with reading.

Try not to use negative language

Try to avoid negative words such as 'lazy', 'slow' or 'can't be bothered'. Children with dyslexia have to work harder to produce a smaller amount. They will have difficulty staying focused when reading, writing or listening.



Scaffolding

Provide access to resources such as word mats or key words flash cards to support with key word spellings. Also pre-teaching vocabulary and having a text to look at before a lesson would be helpful.

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Introduce good role models

Support the child's growth mindset and aspirations by researching famous people who have dyslexia but did not let it hold them back. Examples include: Jamie Oliver, Richard Branson, Steve Jobs, Walt Disney and Holly Willoughby.

Reading in front of people

Try not to get the child to read out loud in front of people (unless they want to). This could really demoralise a child with dyslexia. If you need to hear them read choose a place and time of day when it is quieter so it can be a 1:1 situation.

Use technology

Get an audio book or similar in order to allow the child to read along with a book they have at home. This reinforces reading skills without losing the essence of the story because of reading not being very fluent.

You can find further advice and help at:

Other leaflets available

- Loss ● Anger ● Anxiety ● Sleep ● Bullying ● Managing Behaviour ● Coping with parents breaking up (leaflets for parents as well) ● Lockdown
 - Self-harming ● Attendance ● Dyslexia ● Dyscalculia ● ASD
 - ADHD ● Depression ● Workload ● Work stress ● Confidence
- Building Confidence

If you would like to receive a copy of any of these 10 Ways To leaflets, please email wellbeing@purbeck.dorset.sch.uk and we will send them to you

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