

**Dyslexia Action
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Care (SEMH)
Level 5 CPD Syllabus**

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The CPD Standards Office

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Introduction

Dyslexia Action SEMH CPD courses are designed to strengthen the expertise and confidence of teachers, teaching assistants and support tutors in order to ensure the progress and achievement of children/adults with special educational needs. CPD courses allow professionals to develop and enhance their current skills and understanding. Whilst studying Dyslexia Action CPD courses, participants will question what currently takes place in their learning environment and will learn new theories and strategies. They will learn from fellow professionals and will share their experiences and discuss issues via the course forums. The CPD level 4 and 5 unit and awards courses are qualifications and not awareness courses. Participants must complete the assignments and cannot be given access as 'read only' courses.

Disclaimer

This document is subject to regular revision and replaces any earlier version produced by Dyslexia Action. Whereas every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this document, Dyslexia Action Training and Professional Development is unable to provide any warranty concerning the accuracy or completeness of any information contained herein and in the associated website. Dyslexia Action reserves the right to make changes to the information given and to change the content of courses. Applicants will receive additional, current information during the admissions process and on joining their chosen course.

Dyslexia Action Training and Professional Development assumes no responsibility or liability for any injury, loss or damage incurred as a result of any use or reliance upon the information and material contained within its publications or downloaded from its website.

Explanation of Terms

APEL – Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning

Candidate – The person undertaking an award or unit qualification

CPD – Continuing Professional Development

Hours of Learning Time - This includes all the learning activities that are required to achieve the learning outcomes. Hours of Learning Time includes: preparation before the course begins such as induction activities; familiarisation with the course outline and recommended reading; participation in online activities such as forums and group activities and private study and assessment activities both during and after the course ends.

Learner – The pupil / student that the course participant does any practical work with

Participant – The person who is studying on a course

Accessibility

If you would like to receive a copy of this document in large print or in another format, please contact Dyslexia Action Training and Professional Development directly for assistance.

Copyright

All rights reserved. All information and material contained within this document and on the website, it is accessed from, is copyright and the copyright belongs to Dyslexia Action, a trading name of Real Group Ltd. If you wish to apply for permission to use any materials found within the Dyslexia Action Training and Professional Development e-learning site, please contact Dyslexia Action at the address given in the materials or on the website.

Participants with a Disability

A person is said to be 'disabled' under the Equality Act 2010 if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' negative effect on his or her ability to do normal daily activities.

A disability can arise from a wide range of impairments which can be:

- Sensory impairments, such as those affecting sight or hearing;
- Impairments with fluctuating or recurring effects such as rheumatoid arthritis, myalgic encephalitis (ME), chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS), fibromyalgia, depression and epilepsy;
- Progressive, such as motor neurone disease, muscular dystrophy, and forms of dementia;
- Auto-immune conditions such as systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE);
- Organ specific, including respiratory conditions, such as asthma, and cardiovascular diseases, including thrombosis, stroke and heart disease;
- Developmental, such as autistic spectrum disorders (ASD), dyslexia and dyspraxia;
- Learning disabilities;
- Mental health conditions with symptoms such as anxiety, low mood, panic attacks, phobias, or unshared perceptions; eating disorders; bipolar affective disorders; obsessive compulsive
- Disorders; personality disorders; post-traumatic stress disorder, and some self-harming behaviour;
- Mental illnesses, such as depression and schizophrenia;
- Produced by injury to the body, including to the brain.

In cases where someone is the sole carer for a person with a long-term illness or a disability then that person is, under The Equality Act, afforded the same rights and access to reasonable adjustments that the long-term unwell/disabled person would be.

The online training provided by Dyslexia Action has an inbuilt flexibility and this enables many participants with disabilities to work without any reasonable adjustments. However, we can be responsive to individual requirements. If you have a disability, we would encourage you to disclose this at the time of application so that we can put in place any support required at an early stage.

Disclosure forms are sent to any candidate who indicates that they have a disability on our registration form.

You can also contact the Disabilities Administrator on dada@dyslexiaaction.org.uk to request a copy and there is a copy on the CPD induction course. On the disclosure form you are asked to detail the nature of your disability and to indicate whether you would like one-week extensions on all units/courses you study with Dyslexia Action. If you give your permission for us to disclose, this information will be shared with the Disabilities team, any tutor you work directly with and the tutor in charge of marking. Any agreed reasonable adjustments will be noted on a form and this form will be sent to you for your records. Participants with a disability can discuss their individual requirements with the Disabilities Advisor. The Disabilities Administrator should be contacted in the first instance: dada@dyslexiaaction.org.uk

CPD Syllabus Information

Syllabus Start Date: September 2020

Syllabus End Date: August 2022 (courses within this syllabus must be commenced before this date)

Syllabus Completion Date: August 2023

Please note that in addition to this syllabus document you should also consult the [Terms and Conditions](#) before applying.

During the course of each academic year the code numbers, learning outcomes and content of individual unit courses may change to reflect programme development and updating processes

CPD Standards Office Accreditation

Dyslexia Action has been successfully assessed as an online CPD provider by the CPD Standards Office and has received formal independent CPD accreditation for its online units.

Participants who complete any of our units will be issued with a CPD Certificate of Completion. This certificate can subsequently be used within a formal CPD record for a professional body or employer.

Dyslexia Guild Membership

All course participants are strongly encouraged to become members of The Dyslexia Guild, a membership body which welcomes all individuals with a professional interest in dyslexia and specific learning difficulties (SpLD).

Who can join?

Dyslexia/SpLD specialist teachers and assessors, teaching assistants, SENCos, learning support staff and tutors from further and higher education, speech and language therapists, psychologists and librarians. The Guild maintains the National Training and Resource Centre for Dyslexia and SpLD and provides a wide range of benefits to members. These include online resources, a vibrant and topical journal – The Dyslexia Review, as well as an e-newsletter. Guild members are able to renew their Assessment Practising Certificate through the association and meet annually to network at the Summer Conference.

See: dyslexiaguild.org.uk

Special offer- if you are a student you can join the Guild see Affiliate membership: dyslexiaguild.org.uk

Contact Details

CPD Courses Admissions Office

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SEMH Units

The Dyslexia Action SEMH Level 5 CPD Programme consists of independent unit short courses. All our units are available as independent stand-alone courses. Some of the units contribute towards a pathway to Awards/Certificates.

Units* (appendix 1) are worth 3 Dyslexia Action credits (30 hours total qualification time):

Unit

Awards** are made up of 3 specified Units:

Unit	Unit	Unit
An Award = 3 Units		

*Units can also be built up over time to gain Awards (3 units).

Each award offered by Dyslexia Action Training is made up of three units. Participants may register to study the units individually, and build them up into SEMH Dyslexia Action Awards (Award booking is not available currently), **or they can select an Award to begin with and obtain a discount on the fee for the combined units. When taking the award option, all three units within the award must be studied within a period of one year. There is a choice of six start dates for all units and awards within the year: September, November, January, March, May and July.

Please note: that unit content, learning outcomes and assessment criteria may be subject to change.

Entry Requirements

Applicants should:

- Be qualified to at least level 3 ('A' level) on the UK qualifications framework or have other equivalent qualifications and relevant experience. Teaching assistants must be mentored by a qualified teaching professional whilst on the course.
- Have a **minimum** English language ability level such as: IELTS 6 (ielts.org/default.aspx) or TOEFL 60-78 points (ets.org/toefl/)

UK and International Participants should normally be employed as:

- Qualified classroom teachers or teaching assistants and be currently (or recently within the last 2 years) employed to work with learners in the primary or secondary education fields in the UK or internationally.

Supporting Adults Participants should normally be employed as a:

- Qualified learning or adult support tutor and be currently (or recently within the last 2 years) employed to work with learners in a further or higher education educational setting or those working in a support function.

Please note: Those who wish to undertake this Programme who are supporting adults should be instructors, tutors, learning support staff or lecturers.

Please note: We reserve the right to request information in support of all applications from a headteacher or other suitably qualified line manager or referee.

Dyslexia Action Level 5 SEMH CPD Units

Unit Code	Unit Level	SEMH CPD UNITS 2020 SYLLABUS	TQT	Credits
RT00001	5	The Emotionally Connected Classroom	30	3

Please note: there are eight further units under development in this series.

Total Qualification Time and Credits

Total Qualification Time (TQT) is an estimate of the number of hours a learner will reasonably be likely to spend in guided learning, under the supervision of an online tutor, and individual preparation, study and assessment. Dyslexia Action Credits are awarded as follows: One credit equals 10 hours of TQT.

Unit Level Descriptors

Level 5-unit courses are mapped against the Ofqual Level Descriptors¹ as follows:

Level 5

Knowledge Descriptor (the holder...)

- Has practical, theoretical or technological knowledge and understanding of a subject or field of work to find ways forward in broadly defined, complex contexts.
- Can analyse, interpret and evaluate relevant information, concepts and ideas.
- Is aware of the nature and scope of the area of study or work.
- Understands different perspectives, approaches or schools of thought and the reasoning behind them.

Skills Descriptor (the holder can...)

- Determine, adapt and use appropriate methods, cognitive and practical skills to address broadly defined, complex problems.
- Use relevant research or development to inform actions.
- Evaluate actions, methods and results.

For comparison, typical Level 4 qualifications include Higher National Certificates and Certificates of Higher Education. Typical Level 5 qualifications include Higher National Diplomas, Diplomas of Higher Education and Foundation Degrees. Levels 4 and 5 broadly equate to years one and two of an undergraduate programme.

For further details on qualification levels see [Qualifications can cross boundaries \(June 2017\)](#):

¹ Ofqual 15/5774 (2015) Qualification and Component Levels: Requirements and Guidance for All Awarding Organisations and All Qualifications

Where will I study?

All of our courses are online and all communication is conducted using the messaging system embedded within our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) [Campus Online™](#). For this reason, you will need a computer with an Internet connection and a valid email account. Course teaching materials will be found on the Campus Online™ VLE website. Campus Online login details will be emailed to you prior to the start of your studies.

Dyslexia Action uses the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) as the method of delivery for SEMH units. The core curriculum is delivered by means of a range of e-learning resources [Campus Online™](#). These include presentations, articles, exercises, videos and follow-up activities and tasks for participants to carry out.

How will I be taught?

Participants will be supported by a tutor who is an experienced practitioner in the field of social, emotional and mental health needs. Participants also work together with their fellow participants on the course via contributions to activities and discussions on Campus Online™ forums. This enables all those involved to develop a community of learning with each other and with tutors.

Demands of a Unit Course

Although the courses are delivered through online learning, enabling a flexible form of study, candidates will need to develop good personal time management and to prepare the study skills relevant to e-learning. Candidates will require a quiet and clear space in which to work. Candidates will need to be able to balance the demands of their studies with existing work and home commitments in order to gain the qualification.

The courses are managed by tutors who will be expecting participants to fully engage with the course from the outset. Participants are required to contribute to the discussion forum on the course site. The forums help participants to learn, test out, develop and refine ideas.

Pre-reading

There is no pre-reading required. We do however suggest you join The Dyslexia Guild which provides a wide range of benefits to members and also gives you free access to online resources to continue your professional development.

dyslexiaguild.org.uk

Is practical work with a learner required?

The level 5-unit courses **do not require** any practical work to be carried out directly with a learner or group of learners but will require you to reflect on previous or current practice with learners.

Minimum Hardware and Software Requirements

- Windows/Apple (with 'Pages' app or 'Word' free software). We do not support smartphones.
- High Speed Internet connection
- Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox (Internet Explorer is not supported)
- Microsoft Office/OpenOffice/Google Docs
- Adobe Acrobat Reader/Foxit Reader/VLC Media Player

Internet Connection

For the purpose of viewing online videos, broadband connection with a liberal bandwidth usage policy (5GB) is highly advisable. The basic course content can also be accessed via mobile broadband or even dial-up using smart phones and tablets, but the learning experience will likely be diminished and some video/audio content may not be accessible.

Email Account

You must have your own personal email account (work email accounts are not accepted). We recommend using Google Mail because it gives you access to free cloud-based software that you can use to open course teaching materials.

Despite all the precautions important emails from Dyslexia Action might be filtered as junk/spam. To avoid this problem please add cpdmail@dyslexiaaction.org.uk and campus@campus.realtraining.co.uk to your contact list.

Induction

An online induction is included in the course to help participants prepare for studying an online course with Dyslexia Action. Tutor support is available during the induction and there is a short induction task to submit. Participants are advised to read carefully through the tasks.

Study Time

Each SEMH CPD Unit course requires 30 hours of study. September, November, January, March, May and July units run over a period of 7 weeks (including induction) with all Unit assignments due by the set date at the end of the 7 weeks. Participants may be required to study a few weeks beyond the course period if any re-submissions are required. This could result in an overlap between completing one Unit and starting the next Unit within an Award.

Participants can expect to spend several hours a week online, even if they download some materials and work offline.

Please note: Assignment submissions must be made by the due date. A charge will be made for late submissions.

Unit Assignments

Each unit has an online assignment portfolio for participants to work through. The assignment portfolio has been designed to allow participants to extract the key points of the unit materials without having to write extensive answers. The portfolio contains different exercises consisting of short answers, filling in tables and writing personal responses or reflections. Word count ranges are given for each assignment portfolio exercise; participant responses must fall within the stated word count range.

Assignments must be submitted to the tutor via Campus Online™ by the given deadline date. Participants may submit their unit assignment portfolio in advance of the deadline date, but it may not be marked until this date.

Successful online assignment portfolios are awarded a pass grade. Candidates may also:

- Re-submit (participants may be asked to amend and re-submit some elements of the online assignment portfolio)
- Withdraw (for participants who withdraw from the course or who do not submit the assignment by the deadline date)

Qualification Certificates

Dyslexia Action Unit and Award Qualifications

Participants who successfully complete an individual unit/award qualification will receive a Dyslexia Action unit or award certificate. Participants who fail to complete all units of an award will receive a Dyslexia Action unit Certificate for each unit they have passed.

Dyslexia Action Transcript

Participants who complete sufficient individual units to make up an award qualification will receive a Dyslexia Action certificate and transcript showing the units within the qualification.

It is the responsibility of the participant to inform us if they change address or if they have a different postal address to the address given on the application form. If we are not informed, a charge will be made for re-posting any correspondence including certificates and transcripts.

N.B. Award and Certificate participants may request additional Dyslexia Action unit certificates. A charge of £30 inclusive of VAT, plus postage, per individual certificate, will be made.

SEMH CPD Courses - Registration and Fees

Course Registration

Registration for all courses is online only. The CPD registration deadline for **online** payments is the Wednesday prior to the start of the course, for other payment methods two weeks before the course start date. Your registration will be checked to see if entry criteria are met and course joining details will then be sent.

Fees and Discount Offers

Fees	Unit	Total Unit Fee Inc VAT
Per Unit	£295 + VAT	£354

All payments must be made in Pounds Sterling (GBP) **before** the start of the course. Please refer to [Terms and Conditions](#) for payment terms. VAT is applicable on all courses. If you choose to pay later by cheque or bank transfer an invoice will be raised with an additional fee of £30 inclusive of VAT.

Course Start Dates

2020/2021 CPD Course Start dates (includes an induction task)	Total number of weeks (including induction task)	Pay later registrations close*	Credit/debit card registrations close*
Wed 18 November 2020	7	4 November	11 November
Wed 20 January 2021	7	6 January	13 January
Wed 17 March 2021	7	3 March	10 March
Wed 12 May 2021	7	28 April	5 May
Wed 14 July 2021	7	30 June	7 July
*Subject to course numbers/spaces available			
N.B. Please note that we reserve the right to change/cancel course dates and/or schedules subject to booking numbers.			

We cannot guarantee that any unit will be offered in subsequent years although a suitable alternative will usually be provided.

Appendix 1: Dyslexia Action SEMH Units and Learning Outcomes

RT00001 The Emotionally Connected Classroom

Level 5: Total qualification time 30 hours

This Level 5 Unit aims to provide an understanding of the impact of emotions on the thinking brain and its implications for learning. It aims to give an introduction to key elements of current research and practice in mentalisation theory (understanding the mental state of oneself and others) and emotional coaching. The importance of connectedness and relationships is emphasised throughout.

LEARNING OUTCOMES* The participant will be able to:

1. Understand the impact of stress and trauma on the brain
2. Discuss pupils' emotions and the impact this can have on their behaviour
3. Identify ideas for developing relational based practice in your provision
4. Apply strategies to build pupils resources and resilience to manage their emotions

Notes:

*Unit content and learning outcomes may be subject to change.

Please note: there are eight further units under development in this series.