

## FINDING OUT MORE ABOUT DYSLEXIA AND SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

This guide provides information for individuals, parents and employers who wish to find out more about Dyslexia and SpLD including guidance on assessment and tuition. The guide also signposts useful sources of information for those wishing to support individuals with Dyslexia/SpLD. This information is not comprehensive but aims to provide pointers to many of the useful resources available.

**Please note: Dyslexia Action is now solely a teacher training organisation and no longer provides advice, tuition or assessments.**

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## 1. Assessment and Tuition Services

The following organisations provide services or links to individuals offering tuition and/or assessment.

### **The Dyslexia Guild – Find a Professional (directory)**

The Directory is formed from members who have been awarded designatory letters in recognition of their qualifications\*, and have committed to undertake regular professional development to improve their personal practice and to uphold The Dyslexia Guild Code of Practice.

### **Are you a parent looking for help?**

Visit the directory at [training.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/membersdirectory](https://training.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/membersdirectory) (instructions of how to use the directory can be found through the link)

### **The National Dyslexia Network**

National Dyslexia Network learning centres provide advice, tuition and assessment services as well as support and training for schools and other educational organisations. Centres can be found across England and Wales covering the North East, North West, West Midlands, Yorkshire and the Humber, Lincolnshire, East Midlands and London.

[nationaldyslexianetwork.org.uk/](https://nationaldyslexianetwork.org.uk/)

### **British Psychological Society**

A searchable database of psychologists offering assessment services.

Search for type of psychologist as **Educational** and issue as **Dyslexia assessment**. Educational Psychologists should also be registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

[bps.org.uk/find-psychologist](https://bps.org.uk/find-psychologist)

[hcpc-uk.org/check-the-register](https://hcpc-uk.org/check-the-register)

### **Dyslexia Scotland**

[dyslexiascotland.org.uk/](https://dyslexiascotland.org.uk/)

### **Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity**

[helenarkell.org.uk/what-we-do/assessments/](https://helenarkell.org.uk/what-we-do/assessments/)

### **PATOSS Tutor Assessor Index**

[patoss-dyslexia.org/about-the-tutor-index](https://patoss-dyslexia.org/about-the-tutor-index)

### **British Dyslexia Association**

A charity with a helpline on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays: 0333 405 4567

[bdadyslexia.org.uk/services/assessments](https://bdadyslexia.org.uk/services/assessments)

### **Please note:**

- College and University students should contact their Student Support Services within the college or university they are studying with in the first instance
- Parents of children at school or sixth form should contact the school Learning Support, SEND or SENCo in the first instance
- For reports to be acceptable for Disabled Student Allowance (DSA) evidence regardless of the age of the candidate, the author must hold a current SpLD APC and follow SASC guidelines or be HCPC registered **at the time of the assessment** (February 2019).

## 2. Information and Resources for Parents

### **The Dyslexia Action Shop**

The Dyslexia Action Shop provides a comprehensive range of resources and support materials for individuals with dyslexia/SpLD.

[dyslexiaactionshop.co.uk/](https://dyslexiaactionshop.co.uk/)

### **CReSTeD – The Council for the Registration of Schools Teaching Dyslexic Pupils**

[crested.org.uk/](https://crested.org.uk/)

Provides a searchable regional list of schools offering specialist tuition to children with literacy difficulties

### **The Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity**

[helenarkell.org.uk/courses-and-events/parents/](https://helenarkell.org.uk/courses-and-events/parents/)

## 3. Resources to support Reading and Literacy

### **Alpha to Omega: An A-Z of Teaching reading, writing and spelling**

by Beve Hornsby and Frula Shear. This book is for teachers

### **Nessy**

[nessy.com/en-us/dyslexia-explained](https://nessy.com/en-us/dyslexia-explained)

Nessy is widely used for whole class, phonics, math, typing and early reading instruction

### **Teach your Monster to Read**

[teachyourmonster.org/](https://teachyourmonster.org/)

**The Dyslexia SpLD Trust - Interventions for Literacy:** What works for children and young people with literacy difficulties? A review of intervention schemes for literacy and their effectiveness.

[interventionsforliteracy.org.uk/](https://interventionsforliteracy.org.uk/)

### **Units of Sound: Literacy that fits**

Units of Sound supports anyone (8ys+) who wants to improve on their reading, spelling and writing skills in English.

[nisai.com/unitsofsound/](https://nisai.com/unitsofsound/)

## 4. Assistive Technology

### Ability Net

[abilitynet.org.uk/](http://abilitynet.org.uk/)

### CALL Scotland

[callscotland.org.uk/information/dyslexia/](http://callscotland.org.uk/information/dyslexia/)

### What is Assistive Technology and Types of Assistive Technology

[iansyst.co.uk/technology/](http://iansyst.co.uk/technology/)

### Mind mapping

[mindmeister.com/blog/students-guide-to-mind-mapping/](http://mindmeister.com/blog/students-guide-to-mind-mapping/)

See also books by Tony Buzan on Mind mapping.

### Scanning Pens

[scanningpens.co.uk/](http://scanningpens.co.uk/)

### Text to Speech Software

[techradar.com/news/the-best-free-text-to-speech-software](http://techradar.com/news/the-best-free-text-to-speech-software)

### Fonetti

Uses the power of the child's own voice to accelerate reading improvements and boost reader confidence, whilst giving teachers actionable reading data to drive effective classroom interactions.

[fonetti.com/](http://fonetti.com/)

## 5. Training for Teachers and Support Staff

Please pass on this information to teachers or support tutors in schools or colleges. **Dyslexia Action Training** provides specialist online training for teachers, teaching assistants and support tutors.

See: [dyslexiaaction.org.uk](http://dyslexiaaction.org.uk)

### The Dyslexia Guild:

The membership organisation for professionals teaching and supporting individuals with dyslexia/SpLD.

See: [dyslexiaguild.org.uk/](http://dyslexiaguild.org.uk/)

## 6. Other Useful Sources of Information

**The ADHD Foundation**

[adhdfoundation.org.uk/](http://adhdfoundation.org.uk/)

**The Autism Education Trust**

[autismeducationtrust.org.uk/](http://autismeducationtrust.org.uk/)

**Dyspraxia Foundation**

[dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk/](http://dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk/)

**Mental Health Foundation**

[mentalhealth.org.uk/](http://mentalhealth.org.uk/)

**National Autistic Society**

[autism.org.uk](http://autism.org.uk)

**Pdnet: a network for those supporting learners with physical disability**

[pdnet.org.uk/](http://pdnet.org.uk/)

**Young Minds**

[youngminds.org.uk/](http://youngminds.org.uk/)