

# Helping Dyslexic Children

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**KNOW THE CHILD**

**BE FLEXIBLE IN YOUR APPROACH**

**PRAISE, PRAISE, PRAISE**

## Confidence

Boost self-esteem by correctly pitching work

Understand what a child's needs are – what do they find difficult and what strengths can be used to build confidence

Place the child near you so you can monitor their work and motivate them

Pre-teach vocabulary – especially for topic and maths

## Instructions

Support poor auditory short term memory by breaking instructions down into small chunks.

List more than 2 instructions on the board so children can follow them

Outline what the lesson will look like e.g. first we are going to do this, then this etc. A numbered list on the board often helps

Check homework is understood

## Reading

Focus on reading skills – reading gives access to the curriculum

Use the structured book band reading scheme

Don't ask them to read aloud unless they want to

Use the paired reading technique – this can give amazing results in a short period of time

Use a "Mastery Folder" to teach and assess high frequency word knowledge (remember if a child knows the first 100 HFW they can access 50% of all written text)

## Writing

Don't ask them to copy from the board this can be really difficult for a dyslexic child

Use writing frames to differentiate

Give planning sheets to help structure ideas

## Spelling

Explain rules and patterns

Use colour and pictures to aid memory, especially with

Encourage proof reading

Teach use of Ace spelling dictionary

## Handwriting

Review handwriting with the child and decide on one target at a time together

Talk about why handwriting is important

Encourage joining as it aids spelling

## Maths

Encourage the use of jottings

Pre-teach vocab

Break problems down into steps down

Encourage estimation

Ask them to verbalise their thinking

Use concrete equipment e.g. number squares and numicon

## Organisation

Make a daily checklist for things they need to have e.g. reading record