

Symptoms of Dyslexia in Children

We have all heard of dyslexia and we know that it impacts on a child's reading and spelling, but did you know that it can have a serious effect on many areas of cognitive development?

Below are the symptoms which may be affecting children with dyslexia in your classroom:

Reading

- Slow reading speed
- Unwilling to read either to themselves or out loud
- Makes lots of mistakes when reading
- Loses track of what they are reading and where they are on the page
- Complains that words are moving round on the page

Spelling

- Can't spell unfamiliar words
- Difficulty with phonemes
- Forgets how to spell short and familiar words
- Mixes the order of letters when spelling words

Memory

- Forgetting names of familiar people or objects
- Forgetting instructions
- Poor ability to recall items on a list
- Difficulty learning the months of the year and times tables
- Loss of train of thought

Children with dyslexia can also be disorganised and become tired very easily. Equally, they can be uncoordinated, suffer from headaches resulting from eye pain (owing to visual stress) and have difficulties with distinguishing left from right.

This list is not exhaustive; there can be a lot of variation in the severity of symptoms. It is important to pinpoint what the issues are so that you can work with the child on developing strategies to overcome any barriers to learning.