

Suggestions for parents of secondary age children

School

- Meet the SENCO (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) when your child is in Year 6 - before they transfer to secondary school. Ask what the school offers for dyslexics.
- Make sure that ALL your child's teachers know that your child is dyslexic- sometimes information does not reach all staff. Write to, or meet, the Head of Year, or contact subject staff as soon as possible.
- You may need to notify all your child's teachers every year, if they have different teachers.
- If your child does not like reading aloud in lessons, speak to their teacher, so that the teacher understands.
- If you see negative comments in your child's school books- such as "untidy" or "poor spelling" you may need to meet the teachers to explain about dyslexia.
- HOMEWORK- Your child may have problems writing homework down - sometimes a friend can help, so ask your child who they can trust to help them, or who they can contact if they need to check on homework instructions.
- LESSON NOTES - dyslexics often find it hard to get down all the information in time during a lesson- whether off the board or from dictation. A helpful teacher may be willing to let your child have a copy of any lesson notes or similar, which they can take away with them.

Home

- Have their TIMETABLE on display where they can see it.
- Highlight "kit" days - for PE kit, or anything else that they need to take.
- Letters from school- have a box or a file where they put them for you to read.
- Use pin boards in their bedroom, for reminders about homework, coursework dates.
- Collect together a box of "tools" such as highlighters, pens, pencils, stapler, scissors.
- Colour-code books so they are easily sorted and packed.
- Be prepared to help with homework, and report back to school if it is a problem for your child. Monitor how long they spend on it - school may adjust the quantity.
- EXAMS - your child may need an assessment from an educational psychologist to determine if they qualify for exam concessions - do this early in Year 10, as some concessions can apply to coursework. Contact the BDA or the DI for information.

Praise your child for their achievements, however small. Never criticise their work in front of anyone. Encourage them with their hobbies and interests.