



Dyslexia
Matters

Premium Specialist
Teacher Programme

Course Outline

Background:

Our Premium Course is designed for a select number of passionate candidates who want to make a difference in the lives of learners with dyslexia and specific learning differences. Drawing on our experience founding a specialist school for learners with dyslexia, we developed a programme that exceeds the standard requirements of the qualification.

Our course prioritises practical, hands-on training and individualised support for learners, equipping Specialist Teachers with cutting-edge knowledge and skills to excel in their field. Join us today and become a leader in dyslexia education!

At Dyslexia Matters, our training programme empowers candidates to create a bespoke teaching programme that is tailored to the individual needs of their pupils, rather than following a set programme. By using a truly individualised approach, our Specialist Teachers provide the highest standard of support, enabling their pupils to reach their full potential.

This **Premium Course** will suit candidates who, as well as wanting to achieve the specialist teacher qualification:

- Work best collaboratively with colleagues and a course leader, discussing new concepts and ideas.
- Benefit from additional examples such as case studies to broaden the scope of their experience and discussing best practice for qualified specialist teachers after qualifying.
- Know that having regular meetings to discuss coursework, with everyone participating at the same point, helps them maintain momentum and motivation.
- Want to set the qualification in the context of the wider role of specialist teacher. These candidates will welcome opportunities to explore different settings for learners with dyslexia.
- Would like to explore setting up as an independent practitioner, with practical guidance



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- Would like to explore how the role of Specialist Teacher within an educational setting can be enhanced by auditing and setting targets for the whole establishment. The programme also provides practical resources that can be used after qualifying, devised, tried, and tested by the Dyslexia Matters' team.
 - Are interested in the role of motivation in the learning process
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Study at a time to suit you.

The course content offers an interactive experience, delivered through pre- recorded:

- Lectures
- PowerPoints with voice-overs
- Demonstration lessons
- Cartoons
- Quizzes

All elements are available at any time of night or day, giving you the flexibility to study when you can, at your own pace.

You are welcome to repeat any elements to consolidate your understanding.

The course content also provides you with valuable reading materials/resources and guidelines to support your learning and delivery of lessons

Practical

Units 2 – 4 are focused on the practical elements of being a specialist teacher. Unit 1 is more theory-based but consists of written assignments, rather than essays. This hands-on, experiential programme produces practitioners who are welcomed into educational settings for what they achieve with learners.



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The course does not rely on strong prior knowledge, but as a Level 5 independent study course, it does require considerable personal study especially where information is new to a candidate. Gateway has allocated 600 Guided Learning Hours for the completion of the course. It is therefore recommended that candidates allocate at the very least between one to two days a week to their studies, on average.

Portfolio documentation

Well organised and clear documentation provide clarity about progressing through the course:

- 'Portfolio sheets'
 - Programme schedule
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Guidance templates

Explicit and accessible templates and/or advice sheets are provided for every assignment to organise and structure your work, with clear expectations.

Dyslexia Matters informal assessment kit

Dyslexia Matters has devised their own informal assessments materials to ensure breadth and quality of the assessment process

Best practice activities

Practical activities are provided to embed your new skills before embarking on your assessed assignments with your two learners.

Tutor support

You will experience a high level of tutor support from approachable, experienced practitioners. Each tutor supports a small number of candidates and will provide high quality, targeted guidance.



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Additional weekly interactive webinar programme during term time

Introductory webinar

An opportunity to meet your fellow candidates on the Premium course who you will be working with directly in future webinar sessions. You will receive guidance on getting started and a chance to share your experiences in this field to date.

Consolidation Webinars

To support personal study we have created a consolidation webinar programme. The webinars are designed to enable candidates to self-check and evaluate their own deepening understanding of the teaching delivered on the online learning platform as well as their independent research.

Coursework

After completing your Unit 1 theory-based assignments many of the weekly webinars will focus on discussions around coursework. The course leader will:

- Explore the topic(s) of the day e.g. Single Word Reading
- Ensure candidates have in-depth understanding and skills
- Enable candidates to discuss practise activities with colleagues
- Lead Question and Answer Sessions
- Advise candidates about next steps
- Talk through any barriers to progress that have arisen



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Case Studies

As part of the webinar programme, candidates will have the opportunity to watch several pre-recorded teaching sessions. They will engage in discussions with the specialist teacher to evaluate the interventions observed and exchange best practices and techniques.

Meet Heads of a specialist settings

In addition, as a part of the webinar programme, candidates will watch a recording of the Head of a specialist school for learners with dyslexia and related difficulties. In this session the Head will discuss the practicalities of providing a bespoke education for learners with dyslexia, explain how the setting is organised, learn about organisation in the setting, and the teaching environments provided. The Head will be available for a live Q&A session, as part of a panel, for candidates to ask questions.

Candidates will also watch a recording of the Head of a Specialist Teaching and Assessment Centre for learners with dyslexia and other specific learning differences discussing how they support learners from up to 50 schools and settings via outreach or direct teaching. The Head of the Centre will also be available on the panel of the live Q&A session towards the end of the course.

Setting up as an Independent Practitioner

Towards the end of the webinar programme, find out about the skills needed to set yourself up as an independent practitioner

Supporting settings: internally and externally

Also towards the end of the webinar programme, you will be offered a range of practical support and advice, using our own audit and targeting materials. You will be able to support your setting to achieve the Dyslexia Quality Mark Award from Dyslexia Matters.



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Motivating learners with special educational needs

As you prepare for becoming a qualified specialist teacher, the webinar programme will include an exploration of the impact of motivation and how it can be optimised for our learners.

Post-qualification resources and systems

And in the final stages of the programme, you will be prepared for the moment when you qualify and need to have practical and realistic systems in place to manage your commitments as a Specialist Teacher which will include having access to Dyslexia Matters' resources and systems.

Start date: Regular start dates through-out the year

Price: £4,550 (Inc. VAT)

Limited places available.