

DO YOU HAVE DYSLEXIA?



What is dyslexia?

Dyslexia is a specific learning difficulty that primarily affects the skills involved in accurate and fluent word reading and spelling. Dyslexia can also affect language, motor co-ordination, concentration and organisation. Dyslexia occurs independently of intelligence and affects individuals differently; no two people have the same set of strengths and weaknesses. Whilst dyslexia is a lifelong condition, people with dyslexia often have well developed problem solving and holistic thinking skills.

Common signs of dyslexia

The checklist below gives you a sense of the common signs of dyslexia. If you recognise a number of these in yourself, you may wish to investigate this further.

Do you.....

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Have difficulties spotting errors when proofreading work? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Get easily distracted by background noise? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have to re-read texts several times for understanding? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have difficulty keeping up with note-taking during lectures? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have difficulties with sentence construction and make frequent spelling errors? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Experience difficulties getting started with written assignments? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have problems interpreting written or verbal instructions? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Find that your written work is muddled and lacks structure? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Struggle with organisation? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have family members experiencing similar difficulties? | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Screening and assessment for dyslexia

If you don't have a diagnosis of dyslexia, but think that you may have it, you can complete the online dyslexia screening questionnaire which can be found at www.exeter.ac.uk/wellbeing/accessability/



When AccessAbility receives your completed online questionnaire, the Dyslexia Advisor will contact you to recommend that you either make an appointment for further screening or for a full assessment by an educational psychologist.



If further screening is recommended, then the results will show whether there is sufficient evidence of dyslexic difficulties to suggest that an educational psychologist assessment is needed.



If an educational psychologist's assessment is recommended, then AccessAbility will send you contact details of a number of psychologists who conduct assessments in, or near to, the University. There is a cost for this assessment. The Dyslexia Advisor will provide you with information about this.

Support for students with dyslexia at the University of Exeter

- The University of Exeter welcomes all students and we encourage you to declare a specific learning difficulty (SpLD), such as dyslexia, to us. This will enable us to provide you with the best support and advice possible to support you in your academic studies.
- If you have had a post-16 educational psychologist assessment, please provide AccessAbility with a copy of the resulting report and make an appointment to see an AccessAbility Advisor.
- When you meet the AccessAbility Advisor s/he will put in place an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) for you. An ILP will include reasonable adjustments, such as exam arrangements and teaching requests as recommended by the educational psychologist assessment. The Advisor can also direct you to useful online dyslexia resources and group support sessions.
- Most United Kingdom students who are diagnosed with dyslexia will be eligible to apply for a Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA). This allowance helps students to meet the additional costs that may arise from having a disability at university. It can help towards the cost of specialist equipment and one-to-one support such as Specialist Study Skills. Other options are available for international students and can be discussed with an AccessAbility Advisor.

Further information:

If you have any questions about dyslexia, or other specific learning difficulties, and/or the support available, please contact AccessAbility either by phone 0300 555 0444 or email AccessAbility@exeter.ac.uk