



Dyspraxia

What is Dyspraxia?

Some children despite adequate teaching, a stimulating environment and with a generally normal intellect have difficulty with movement, coordination manual dexterity and specific aspects of learning.

Dyspraxia is a difficulty with thinking and carrying out sensory / motor tasks.

Areas the student **may** have difficulties in:-

- General organisation
- Poor pencil grip
- Unable to remember and/or follow instructions
- Poor attention span
- Difficulties in copying from the whiteboard
- Poor/immature drawing skills
- Co-ordination problems/clumsiness
- Untidy/erratic handwriting
- Easily distracted /daydreamer/slow to finish a task
- Poor self awareness
- Low self esteem
- Poor sequencing skills (**Maths**)
- Social skills
- Emotional immaturity

Strategies

- Give handouts where possible
- Give clear instructions in small steps
- Use visual prompts
- Make expectations clear/explicit verbal instructions
- Be concrete, not abstract
- Keep surroundings simple i.e. avoid clutter

If you observe a student with any of these difficulties or need any help please come and visit the Learning Support Team in C4 or drop an email to me

Dyspraxia

Dyslexia is a neurological and/or biochemical language processing disorder with symptoms which may range from minor to severely debilitating. It is a difficulty in reading and writing in spite of normal development of intelligence, cognitive and sensory abilities.

Causes

- Congenital
- Result of brain damage from trauma

Consequences

- Difficulties in speech and language
- Difficulties in fine motor control- pencil grip, writing, using scissors
- Coordination problems- timing, balance, controlled sequences
- Speech control- pitch, volume and articulation
- Poor sports skills- catching, coordination
- Social awkwardness due to speech difficulties
- Whole body movement

Strategies

- Speech and physical therapy
- Practise of simple tasks
- Step by step progress to more complex physical activities
- Encouragement to increase confidence
- Encourage friendships