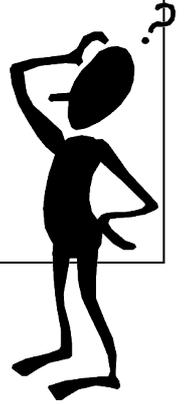


I have **DYSLEXIA**

What does that mean?



If you have dyslexia, you probably work really hard in school, but will find reading or writing (or both!) a challenge. You probably like to listen to stories, and have lots of good ideas for your own writing – but somehow they just get jumbled up when you try to write them down. You may also find it hard to learn tables or remember addition facts. However, you will probably find some things in school much easier, and be very good at some subjects – perhaps you have a super general knowledge, or are a whizz at Science or Music!



You will not be the only person in your school or even in your class to have this challenge, and there are lots of famous people who have dyslexia: Orlando Bloom, Jamie Oliver, Tom Cruise, Keira Knightley, Benjamin Zephania, Pablo Picasso, John Lennon, Walt Disney, Albert Einstein and many, many more. They all found school work hard, but got good jobs and some of them earned lots of money too! This is because they think in different ways and have good ideas that other people don't always think of. We might decide to do some assessments

to see if we can get a better picture of how we can help you in school, or we can ask a special teacher to come into school to do the assessments. She will do a little bit of reading, writing, spelling, drawing and some number work. Then you will play some games which will help the teacher to know how you learn best. After all this, she will write a report. We can then together decide if there are extra things that we can put in place in school and at home to help you with your dyslexia.

This is what some pupils at Rivelin said about Dyslexia:

“I always knew I struggled with literacy, although I was good at maths and other things. I noticed it first in Y2, and it got worse as I went further up the School and had to do harder work, and on my own more. I used to feel a bit bad, a bit behind, that I wasn’t doing as well as others in my class.”

“You have to work harder than other people with spellings or reading – but it pays off!”

“You are not the only one, there are lots of children in the school who have dyslexia – so don’t feel worried.”

“When I saw the special teacher, I had to remember sequences of numbers and listen for sounds in words – that was quite hard to do. But she didn’t rush me, and didn’t mind if I got it wrong.”

“When I first heard the word “dyslexia”, I didn’t know what it was. I thought it might affect my health, and that people could tell by looking at me. But of course it isn’t an illness, it just describes the way I think and learn, and no-one can tell I have it – and I can still be good at other things!”

“You have to remember that spelling is only a part of writing, and after you have finished writing you can use dictionaries or spellcheckers to help you.”

We hope that this information sheet has helped you to understand more about dyslexia.

