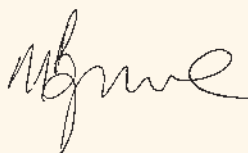


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Director's message

Welcome to this Autumn edition of the Trust newsletter; we have included updates this time of our work, reach and new resources published recently. Whilst we continue to offer training and impartial information to teachers and parents we can really sense the increased need since September this year with the implementation of the SEND Reforms. You are making far more requests now for the support and our key resources are flying off our shelves! We are aiming to be referenced now in all school SEN information reports and all authority Local Offers. Let us know how this is working with examples of good models.



Mel Byrne
Director



Focus on... SEND Guidance

The Dyslexia-SpLD Trust are delighted that we continue to be one of the most viewed publishers on the SEND Gateway. Our Guidance on the SEND Reforms has also stayed up there as one of the most viewed resources; we knew that you would need it so are pleased that you are finding it useful.

The SEND Gateway has proved valuable for us as a publisher to see how our resources are being used and which ones are the most popular. Whilst we can do this from our own sites at source the SEND Gateway provides a quick and simple alert for us to track viewers to monitor demand.

As a result of this we know that you are seeking information and guidance on screening and assessment for people with dyslexia and specific learning difficulties. Another really useful feature of the SEND Gateway is the feedback and rating facility; don't forget to use this so that we can continue to improve things.



Registered Provider
sendgatewayTM
powered by nasen

All the Dyslexia-SpLD Trust resources can be accessed from source via our website: www.thedyslexia-spldtrust.org.uk and at NASEN's SEND Gateway: www.sendgateway.org.uk

Focus on... Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships.org.uk have written a factsheet for young people undertaking an Apprenticeship in England, this will be of particular interest to:

- Dyslexic young people doing an Apprenticeship in England who are taking Functional Skills qualifications in English or maths.
- Dyslexic people who did not finish an Apprenticeship because they failed a Key Skills qualification in Communication or Application of Number some time ago.

The factsheet can be found on the Trust website here.



Project Highlights

Parents

The Parent Champion website is undergoing some improvements to improve the user experience. As well as this a new 'Map of Provision' is in development which will show where support can be found on a map so that a parent can enter in their postcode and view nearby resources. This new feature will be available in October, so look out for it on the Parents website and please let us know what you think.

If you would like your organisation to feature on the map, please contact kate@thedyslexia-spldtrust.org.uk for more information.

The Framework

Do not forget to complete your course twice so that you can show improvement and download a certificate for your CPD.

YOT

A conference aimed at Youth Offending teams, Probation Officers and other related professions is happening on the **27th November 2014** at **Goodison Park, Liverpool**.

This conference will give these professionals the opportunity to develop greater understanding of dyslexia and how dyslexia friendly practice can be incorporated into their work.

The SEND Reforms

A new downloadable document aimed at Teachers, Trainers and SENCO's can be found on the Trust website.

This has been written to go alongside the SEND reforms presentation which can be found in the same place.

[Click here for the document and the presentation from the Trust website.](#)

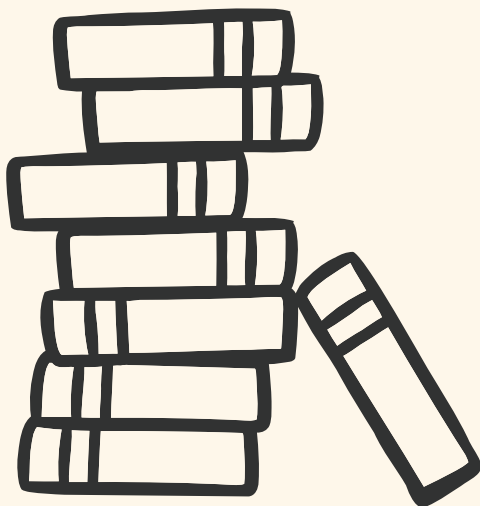


News

What happened to Rose Funded Teachers?

Article by Jackie Knowles

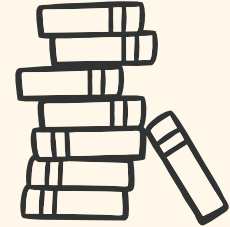
In 2010, I applied for and was lucky enough to be a recipient of the Rose funding. This funding enabled teachers, such as myself, to receive dyslexia training from approved educational institutions. I took a Post Graduate Certificate SpLD (Dyslexia) with Dyslexia Action whilst working as a teacher for three days a week in a state comprehensive school. I had a PGCE in English and Communications and an MSc in Instructional Technology, and was actually teaching ICT at the time.



I was keen to move into the special education area and receiving the Rose funding was a golden opportunity for me. I also realised that there was a growing need for ICT specialists in SEN and I wanted to know if I could be a part of bridging that gap.

So I jumped in – perhaps too deep! I began the online course which was very hard and proved to be extremely challenging. As well as maintaining family life and teaching, I had to put in about 12-20 hours a week of additional study. This was stressful and caused many late nights, but I survived and learnt so much in the process.





**“The
important
thing is I know
that I have
and can make
a difference
in students’
lives”**

Four years on, I am still working in the field of dyslexia and have so much more to do. I am working part time in state and private schools as a dyslexia teacher and I am just about to move into Higher Education. There just isn't enough time in the day. I am a project officer on the Dyslexia and SpLD Trust's Professional Development Framework, the aim of which is to increase the literacy and dyslexia teaching skills of teachers.

Fellow students have moved into SENCo or LEA advisor positions, although it has to be said many have been made redundant during education budget cuts. I still have battles to fight over students who have been written off by the education system, more theory to read and apply, more IT solutions to use in order to help students... the list is endless and the fight goes on.

Occasionally, middle-aged adults sidle up to me at social gatherings to quietly tell me that they know they are dyslexic and that the educational system has failed them, which in turn has had a dramatic impact on their lives. The important thing is I know that I have and can make a difference in students' lives. The knowledge and confidence I have gained by doing the Rose-funded course has given me the power to do this.

Thanks, Sir Jim!



News

Dyslexia Association of London announces re-launch of charity

The Dyslexia Association of London will announce new plans for its charity, following a series of relaunch events taking place in Central London during national dyslexia awareness week. From Monday, 3 November to Friday, 7 November, the charity will run a pop-up dyslexia resource centre on Oxford Street, where there will be a number of free talks, workshops and other activities taking place.

The 'rebooting' of the charity comes as a move towards renewing and enhancing dyslexia-related support at the local level across the capital. Initially focusing more towards provision for adults with dyslexia, the association plans to soon offer information, advice and signposting for parents of children with dyslexia.



Originally founded in 1972, the charity was known for a long time as the London Dyslexia Association, but had to change its name in 2001. In recent years, due to funding cuts and challenging circumstances, outreach services were discontinued and only limited support was provided to those in desperate need.

Speaking of the changes taking place at the charity, committee member Adrian Cummins said “We are seeking to better inform, equip and empower people at the local level in London and do not aim to compete with or duplicate the services of other charities. The number of local dyslexia associations has almost halved in the last decade, yet the need for signposting, advice and support across the capital is still strong.”

The Dyslexia SpLD Trust will join the Dyslexia Association of London in Oxford Street on Thursday, 6 November and will be running a workshop as a part of the programme of activities.



For more information on the charity or their upcoming dyslexia awareness week events, please visit their website: www.dyslexialondon.org.

News

DSA Modernisation

The dyslexia sector continues to work together with the department for business innovation and skills

The Dyslexia-SpLD Trust is pleased to hear that the information that we and others supplied to the Minister, his predecessor and his advisors at the department for business innovation and skills was helpful.

We welcome the announcement that for the academic year 2015/16 Disabled Students Allowance funding will continue, as set out in the Minister's announcement.

We are encouraged to hear that the Minister is "determined to ensure that disabled students should be able to make use of and develop their talents through higher education and that there should be no cap on their aspirations."

We will continue to offer our support and contribution to ensure students with dyslexia, specific learning difficulties and literacy difficulties are supported throughout their education.

The Parliamentary document can be found [here](#).

the Minister is:

"determined to ensure that disabled students should be able to make use of and develop their talents through higher education and that there should be no cap on their aspirations."



Dyslexia Awareness Week

This year's Annual Dyslexia Awareness week will be happening from the 3rd until the 9th of November.

The event is a great opportunity to raise awareness of dyslexia as well as those who support it, and to highlight the fantastic achievements made by people with dyslexia.

The theme this year is 'Dyslexia Matters' and will be raising awareness of creating a dyslexia friendly environment both in schools and within the workplace as well as offering support and encouragement to anyone with dyslexia.

The event last year was a great success, capturing the attention of thousands of people through organised events as well as online conversations. We are hopeful that this year's event will be even bigger engaging more people and getting the country talking about dyslexia.

We are looking forward to this year's event and will be updating our website with information on events being organised by our partner organisations as soon as they have been announced. Below is a summary of what the BDA has planned for the week as well as other events that have been confirmed.

**Dyslexia
Awareness
Week**

3-9th November



Diary Dates

BDA Events

Dyslexia Awareness Week Competition

The BDA invites entries for their annual Dyslexia Awareness Week competition

This competition is only open to individuals with dyslexia

There are three categories this year:

1. Artists (*including photography and graphic design*)

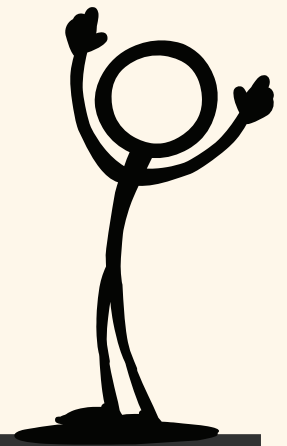
Age Categories: 5-11 years, 12-17 years, and 18+

2. Inventors

Age Categories: 5-11 years, 12-17 years, and 18+

3. Writers (*including fiction, non-fiction and poetry*)

Age Categories: 5-11 years, 12-17 years, and 18+



Please send your entries to: **DAW Competition, BDA, Unit 8, Bracknell Beeches, Old Bracknell Lane, Bracknell, RG12 7BW.**

Email: media@bdadyslexia.org.uk

(Subject: DAW Competition).

November 3

Monday sees the launch of Dyslexia Awareness Week 2014 and introduction of our “Dyslexia Matters....” video campaign.

The campaign will see people record a one-minute or less video that asks them to start with “Dyslexia Matters to me because...” and talk about what dyslexia means to them.

The campaign is open to everyone whether they are a person with dyslexia, a teacher or an employer. The videos will be uploaded to the B.D.A. YouTube channel for others to see as well as promoted across social media.

November 4

Tuesday will see the B.D.A. teaming up with the Dyslexia Association of London and hosting a free entrepreneur’s event at a venue on Oxford Street, London.

The event includes talks by Good Story – a mentoring charity that helps young entrepreneurs turn their ideas into a reality, as well as people with dyslexia who have started their own businesses.

The event is open to the public and people are able to drop in to listen to talks, network with those in attendance or get more information about B.D.A. services such as workplace assessments, Organisational Membership and how to become a dyslexia friendly employer. A video booth will be available allowing visitors to record videos as part of the “Dyslexia Matters...” video campaign.



November 5

6.30pm, Oxford Street venue TBC

On Thursday afternoon, the B.D.A. is back at Oxford Street where they will be holding an arts and literacy session featuring artists, poets and singer/songwriters with dyslexia.

The session is free and open to the public. In the evening, there will be an exhibition at the venue that showcases the entries have received for the D.A.W. competition. The exhibition starts at 6.30pm. The “Dyslexia Matters...” video booth will also be available.

November 6

7pm, The Bloomsbury Institute

Wednesday evening sees the Bloomsbury Institute hosting the B.D.A. with an author’s evening featuring Sally Gardner – author of *Maggot Moon* and Tom McLaughlin – author of *The Diabolical Mr Tiddles*.

The evening will start at 7pm with readings from both authors followed by a question and answer session. Schools are invited to send in questions to the B.D.A. prior to this event and a selection will be put to the authors. The evening will be turned into a podcast that will be available after the event.

Tickets will be available for purchase from the Bloomsbury Institute. The “Dyslexia Matters...” video booth will also be available.



November 7

The BDA will be hosting a live social media chat on the Friday in conjunction with our Helpline where you can ask questions relating to dyslexia. During this session their National Helpline Manager, who represents the B.D.A at government policy level and has been involved in everything from apprenticeships to the use of assistive technology in SATs will answer your questions.

Other Events

November 4

9:30am - 1:00pm,
Quakers Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ

Education Lawyers at Langley Wellington LLP Solicitors are holding a FREE Conference for Parents of Children and Young Adults with Special Educational Needs (SEN).

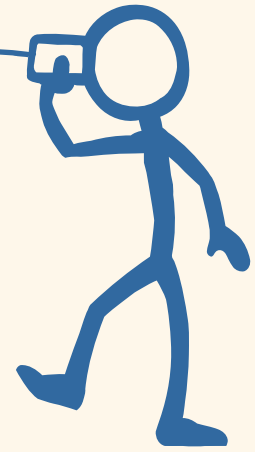
Conference Overview:

- **Learn about changes to SEN Law**
- **Speak to experts on SEN Law**
- **Put questions to a panel of speakers**
- **Share your experiences with other parents**

Tea and coffee on arrival and mid morning.

Places are limited. Book your FREE place by calling: **01452 555166** or by emailing **education@langleywellington.co.uk**.



When booking please make Langley Wellington aware of any disabilities.



Your Say

We are always interested in what our stakeholders have to say, as this helps to shape our work ahead.

If you are a parent and would like to share your experiences with other parents, perhaps you'd like to join our group on Facebook [Parent Champions?](#)

If you are a professional and would like to keep up to date on Trust activities, you can join us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#)  

We are always looking for contributors for our newsletters so please get in touch if you have an item you would like to be included in the newsletter. Alternatively if there is something you think we need to cover, please let us know.

Email the Editor, Kate Lang at kate@thedyslexia-spldtrust.org.uk

