

Developmental phases of dyslexia in children

Adapted from ROSE 2009¹

Table 1

Developmental phases of dyslexia in children and young people learning to read in English

Developmental phase	Signs of dyslexia
Preschool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delayed or problematic speech. Poor expressive language. Poor rhyming skills. Little interest/difficulty learning letters.
Early school years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor letter-sound knowledge. Poor phoneme awareness. Poor word attack skills. Idiosyncratic spelling. Problems copying.
Middle school years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slow reading. Poor decoding skills when faced with new words. Phonetic or non-phonetic spelling
Adolescence and adulthood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor reading fluency Slow speed of writing Poor organisation and expression in work

‘Characteristic features of dyslexia are difficulties in phonological awareness, verbal memory and verbal processing speed’

¹Adapted from Identifying and teaching children and young people with dyslexia and literacy difficulties: An independent report from Sir Jim Rose to the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families June 2009