

## Pilot Specialist Courses for Teaching Assistants

A Helen Arkell Dyslexia Centre scheme part-funded by the Trust

This project involves creating and delivering courses for Teaching Assistants to help them support students with co-occurring difficulties in the area of speech and language, dyspraxia, ADHD and numeracy. Each course comprises one unit and is accredited by NOCN (National Open College Network)



# The Dyslexia-SpLD Trust

## Courses include:

### *Supporting Speech and Language - KS1, 2 & 3*

Speech and Language are fundamental building blocks for learning. Weaknesses in speech and language can leave children with difficulties in understanding others, expressing themselves and social interaction. This is a course to help TAs to support pupils at KS 1, 2 and 3. It is designed to improve identification and give practical strategies for support.

### *Supporting Pupils with ADHD - KS1, 2 & 3*

This course gives attendees a better understanding of what ADHD is and how these difficulties impact upon learners in an educational setting. Suggestions for how to support these learners are given. The course also covers the impact of ADHD on parents and family, together with emotions and relationships. Finally, the effects of medication for ADHD and future options for these children are discussed. This is a course to help TAs to support pupils at KS 1, 2 and 3. It is designed to improve identification and give practical strategies for support.

### *Supporting Pupils with Dyspraxia - KS1, 2 & 3*

This course gives attendees a good understanding of underlying difficulties that affect many children in the classroom. In particular it addresses gross and fine motor skills, visual perceptual skills, visual motor skills and sensory skills. The course provides information on how to identify these difficulties and offer strategies to improve the child's performance. It also looks at interpreting OT reports and actioning programmes of therapy in schools.

### *Supporting Pupils with Numeracy*

The course will help Teaching Assistants to understand the difficulties that learners encounter in numeracy and the possible reasons for these difficulties. It will show how to analyse learners' mathematical skills, identify the 'point of breakdown' and plan a programme of support. Ideas are included for how to give effective support and develop/create mathematical resources.