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DYSLEXIA CHECKLISTS, SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT

If you want to find out if someone is dyslexic, there are several options:

Checklists

These are lists of some of the behaviours which are associated with dyslexia. They are usually weaknesses, but some lists include typical dyslexia strengths too. There are several online checklists.

The British Dyslexia Association has some 'Indications of Dyslexia' for school children here:

<http://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/about-dyslexia/parents/indications-of-dyslexia.html>

An adult dyslexia checklist can be downloaded from here:

<http://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/about-dyslexia/adults-and-business/i-think-i-might-be-dyslexic.html>

Screening

Screening tests give an indication of possible dyslexic difficulties. They are **not** 'diagnostic' and they are not 100% accurate, but may be a useful next step.

ODA uses computerised screening tests for different age ranges, and a minimum donation is requested to help cover the cost of the screener's time:

Lucid Dyslexia Screening: **RAPID** (we will do this for ages 4 to 7)

http://www.lucid-research.com/sales/esales.htm?category_id=31&product_id=184
minimum donation £5

Lucid Assessment System for Schools: **LASS** (ages 8 to 11 Primary School)

http://www.lucid-research.com/sales/esales.htm?category_id=31&product_id=182
minimum donation £30

Lucid Assessment System for Schools: **LASS** (ages 11 – 15 Secondary School)

http://www.lucid-research.com/sales/esales.htm?category_id=31&product_id=183
Minimum donation £30

Lucid Adult Dyslexia Screening Plus: **LADS Plus** (ages 15+)

http://www.lucid-research.com/sales/esales.htm?category_id=31&product_id=196
minimum £30 donation

ODA is run by volunteers. If you would like to join us, please visit our web site and download a membership form.

Assessments

Dyslexia assessments should always be conducted by someone who is qualified to assess e.g. a Chartered Psychologist specialising in Specific Learning Difficulties or Specialist Teacher/Assessor with a suitable qualification.

An assessor should conduct a battery of cognitive ability and literacy/numeracy attainment tests. The results should show the pattern of strengths and weaknesses and give recommendations for remediation.

ODA does not have a list of Chartered Psychologists, but the British Psychological Society may be able to help: www.bps.org.uk. ODA has a list of other suitably qualified assessors, and the names of those available or closest to you may be given on request.

There are different levels of assessment:

Full diagnostic assessment

This takes 2 – 3+ hours to carry out, and a full and detailed report will be written, with recommendations for how to help. This may be done for any age-group, but ideally for those over 6 years old. It will cost £325 - £400.

Disabled Student Allowance assessment

If an assessment is required for DSA application, the assessor must have an Assessment Practising Certificate. The tests will take 3 hours+ and the assessment will cost £325 - £400.

Workplace needs assessment

This may be done in order for employers to apply for funding from Access to Work for 'reasonable adjustments' in the workplace. It does not necessarily involve a dyslexia diagnostic assessment, but is an assessment of the individual's needs and the workplace requirements. It may cost £325 - £500.

Short assessment

Some assessors will carry out some assessment tests, and provide a very brief summary report. This may cost about £125 - £250.

Teaching assessment

Some practitioners will carry out various assessment tests in order to plan a teaching programme, prior to a period of tuition. These are usually charged by the hour, at a rate of approximately £30 - £45 per hour.

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