



THE DYSLEXIA DIAGNOSIS PROCESS FOR CHILDREN



This piece of content is
just for dyslexic children
only, and not adults.



When you suspect that your child may be dyslexic, usually the first step is to contact your child's school teacher or the school's Special Educational Needs coordinator to discuss the best way forward.



Here they may decide to carry out screening tests or go through checklists to assess your child's strengths and struggles. This is to see where they can be supported the most. This is referred to as SEN support.



It is encouraging to know that you do not need a formal diagnosis to receive support for your child and there should be no delays in receiving this, once the SEN has carried out their assessment.



Of course you should still pursue a diagnosis if you believe your child is dyslexic because it will help them greatly in many areas of their life moving forward.



Currently the only way dyslexia can be formally diagnosed is via a diagnostic assessment.

This is overseen by a certified dyslexia assessor. They will then decide the outcome of whether your child is dyslexic or not.



Once this assessment is carried out you will receive a detailed report that explains the struggles that your child possesses, coupled with a clear plan moving forward and a profile of your child's cognitive style.



The assessment aims to identify what exact challenges your child faces and this includes information regarding reading, spelling, and writing skills. They want to find out where there are clear differences compared to other children their age and to assess their general ability.



They want to determine the child's individual style of learning and what things benefit or hinder them. They may look at other factors which may affect their learning also.



They will also look at whether any reasonable adjustments are required so that they can learn in the best way possible for them.



As with anything, there are advantages and disadvantages, in the case of paying for an assessment and the advantage is receiving quicker support and potentially better support if assessed via an expert.





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