

Dyslexia Assessment and Support Services

Assessment Details and Charges

Dyslexia

It is estimated that Dyslexia affects approximately 10% of the population. It is not a condition that can be cured and it is not a symptom of low intelligence. Dyslexia can occur in people of all abilities, and dyslexic people are frequently of average or above average ability. It is found in all socio-economic groups and in every country in the world.

Dyslexia is a specific learning difficulty affecting a person's ability to deal with text, and often numbers as well. It is a permanent disability which often goes unnoticed until a child starts school. Then a child (and later an adult) knows something is wrong but cannot understand why they find it so hard to cope with the work that others find so easy. This often results in stress, lack of confidence and low self-esteem.

A dyslexic child's difficulty is not visible compared to a person in a wheelchair, for example, and therefore it can sometimes go unrecognised by teachers. As the dyslexic child is often bright, articulate and normally is quite talented in creative/design subjects, teachers are often confused as to why the child is making frequent and careless mistakes in reading, writing, and spelling. An assessment will help the school understand your child's strengths and weaknesses and how making small changes, in terms of teaching and resources, can make a big difference.

There is so much that can be done to help children cope with and overcome problems associated with dyslexia, both at home and school, and the earlier it is diagnosed the better for the child. This "hidden disability" can affect someone's whole life unless it is recognised and managed, and the first step is a diagnostic assessment carried out by a specialist.

The Assessment

The service I provide is **for people of all ages; children and adults.**

The whole assessment process involves.

- A pre-assessment questionnaire for you to provide some background about family history, hearing, vision and co-ordination, and any other developmental issues, weaknesses and strengths and specific difficulties.
- A pre-assessment questionnaire for the school to complete covering several areas including learning and concentration.
- Initial meeting to discuss the questionnaire in more detail.
- Diagnostic assessment.
- The assessments will include a variety of tasks. It is not like an exam and there are no right or wrong answers. I will be trying to build up a picture of how your child thinks and process information, to look at the whole person and examine the root cause of any learning difficulties. The final part involves building up a dyslexic profile, testing a range of factors including:
 - Non-Verbal and Verbal IQ
 - Cognitive (thinking) skills, memory, sequencing information and phonological processing and memory.
 - Phonological and phonemic skills such as rhyme, phoneme isolation, syllable division, decoding and encoding skills.
 - Reading and spelling assessment and overall ability in writing skills
 - Comprehensive report with recommendations

It is not enough to have a report showing that your child has dyslexia. What you need is a report that provides recommendations of how you can help your child at home or support them with schoolwork. More importantly there will also be recommendations for your school; in class and for remediation.

Your report will provide the results of all the tasks and tests taken, what that means and the implications. It will also provide conclusions and a comprehensive list of recommendations for school and home. There will be an opportunity to discuss the report and recommendations in detail and time for you to ask any questions and advice, immediately after the report is received and in the future.

Charges

All fees cover the following:

Evaluation of pre-questionnaire

Discussion with parent

Assessment

2 hours analysis of data

3-4 hours report writing

Recommendations for home, individual tuition and class support

Follow up to answer any question arising from the report with parents and school if required

Total fees: \$800.

*Please check these rates and services with other individuals or companies; you will find that they are extremely competitive.

I accept cash, personal cheque, or bank deposit.

Payment to be made on the day of the assessment. I will write your report once your payment has been received.

Cancellations must be made up to 24 hours before the assessment or a cancellation fee of \$50 will be made.

Any information that you and your child supply will be used by me as part of the assessment process. Any information supplied verbally or in writing and any test results will not be shared with anyone else apart from the parent (and child) who has provided the information unless I am instructed to by the parent. If the assessment is requested by the school, then the information would, of course, be shared with the school.

If you would like to proceed with the assessment, please contact me on 0402225051 or email karen@dyslexiasupportservices.com.au

Karen Starkiss- RSA Dip SpLD,

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