

Inclusion



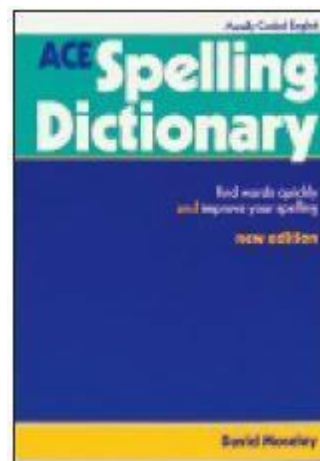
Dyslexia at Avon Valley

Dyslexia comes from the Greek language meaning 'difficulty with words'. It's a symptom of several different information processing difficulties in the brain. There is no cure, but recognition that a child has dyslexia and using appropriate teaching methods can help a great deal.

With this in mind, all Year 7 students are individually screened for dyslexia and dyslexic tendencies at The Avon Valley School during the first term. If your child shows signs of dyslexia or dyslexic tendencies, a member of the inclusion team will be in touch with you about how we can support your child.

At The Avon Valley School we use a multi-sensory teaching approach; helping the student to learn through more than one of the senses, including the use of touch and movement (kinaesthetic). This will give the student's brain tactile and kinetic memories to hang on to, as well as the visual and auditory ones. Each curriculum area is colour coded based on the National Curriculum colours and a visual image of that curriculum is also displayed.

Some students also have visual timetables. Most worksheets are offered in 'comic sans' font as recognised by the British Dyslexia Association as the most reader friendly font. In cases linked to visual differences, coloured overlays are offered as they may stop the letters from 'dancing on the page' (a common complaint). We also have 'Ace Spelling dictionaries' to assist students with spelling difficulties. If you ask dyslexic students to check spellings in a normal dictionary they often find it difficult. To look up a word in a dictionary, you have to know how the word is spelt in the first place – or at least the first part of the word. The **Ace Spelling Dictionary** (David Moseley) is great for students and adults who may struggle to use an ordinary dictionary.



Using the unique index, children need only think how a word sounds to find out how to spell it. By simply identifying the first vowel sound, the speller is instantly sent to the page where the problem word is found. It would be good for students to have a copy of the Ace Spelling Dictionary to use at home.

How can you help your child? Daily reading, mind mapping skills engage in memory games and use coloured post it notes to help with homework and revision.

For more information, please contact our Inclusion Department.

Further advice and support

British Dyslexia Association

Tel: 0118 966 8271 www.bdadyslexia.org.uk

Dyslexia Action

Tel 01784 222300 www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk