



Bristol Dyslexia Centre

Bristol Dyslexia Centre is a specialist learning centre for children and adults with **dyslexia**, **dyspraxia**, **dyscalculia** and other specific learning difficulties. It is situated adjacent to Bristol's Durdham Downs in Clifton.



Aims

We aim to restore self-confidence and self-reliance by improving reading, writing, spelling, numeracy and memory skills, combined with sensitive understanding, so enabling students to realise their full potential.

Enrolment

An initial consultation is provided to assess the student's needs and facilitate the planning of an individual multi-sensory programme.

Each systematic programme is based on a compilation of proven, well-established methods and covers a wide range of techniques for learning to read, spell and write. The Centre also uses its own structured, multi-sensory programme, Nesy, which has proven to be highly successful and is being widely introduced in schools in the UK and word wide.

Individual programmes are developed to also address **dyspraxia** (movement and language,) **dyscalculia** (mathematical difficulties) and other related specific problems. Attention is

also directed towards perceptual disorders of visual, auditory, motor and memory function. Clear thinking and study skills are also incorporated into the programme in order to improve organisational strategies, memory techniques and to develop thought processes.

All teachers have specialist qualifications. They also have the qualities of personality for sensitive teaching of students with specific learning difficulties.

Teaching Structure



Students are taught between the hours of 8.30am and 5.30pm from Monday to Friday, and each session generally lasts for 1 hour.

Students may be taught individually or in small groups. There are generally two in each group, but groups of three may sometimes be taught when pupils are of similar levels and needs. Groups of 6-10 can also be accommodated for touch-typing, study skills courses, specific G.C.S.E. and exam techniques. Literacy groups are also available for groups of adults.

Each student is taught according to his/her individual programme. Interactive computer games, board games, study skills and specially developed cards are used to make lessons interesting, lively and personalised, so avoiding failure and restoring confidence.

Attainment and/or diagnostic assessments are given every 6 months and the individual programme is correspondingly modified. Teachers give regular feedback to parents.

Arrangements for lesson times are planned carefully in order to minimise disruption of school, college or work place. Every endeavour is made to instigate and maintain contact with a child's school in the hope of giving support and feedback to student, teachers and parents.

BDC currently supports students in over one hundred schools, universities, companies and businesses in Bristol, Somerset and Gloucestershire.

Nesy Learning Programme

Bristol Dyslexia Centre designs, develops and uses **'Nesy'** software which has proved highly successful in the UK and abroad; it is the **Winner of the 2010 British ERA** (educational resource award) for 'Best I.T resource for SEN'.



The Nesy team have also developed **Nesy Fingers (ERA Winner 2009)**, Nesy Tales and much more. For details of the full range, see: www.nesy.com

Full-Time School



Full time specialist education is available for children aged 6-16 years. Pupils follow a full but modified curriculum where the prime aim is to address each child's specific learning difficulties, so all lessons are taught with multi-sensory methods.

Class sizes are very small and the pupil-staff ratio is generally 5:1 but at times reduces to 1:1. The school is registered with the Department for Education and is staffed by specialist, fully qualified and experienced teachers. Further details can be found at www.belgrave-school.org

Fees

Fees are payable by the first day of each term, either by card, cheque, cash or standing order. They are increased only to cover costs and are kept to a minimum. A term's notice is required before withdrawing a pupil from the school or centre or a term's fees must be paid in lieu.

Assessments

The Centre offers a range of assessments from short attainment tests to examination certificates to full Educational Psychologist reports. Speech & Language & Occupational Therapy assessment and support is also available. Further details are available on request.

The Directors

Mrs Pat Jones, has over 40 years' experience at primary, senior and adult levels. She has worked in state schools (1963-76) as Head of Mathematics and Head of a Reading Centre, and in the independent sector where she was responsible for setting up the Dyslexia Department at Colston's School. Mrs Jones lectures widely and is regularly invited to talk to professionals throughout the UK.

She has also the added experience of having brought up 2 dyslexic sons of her own, and this gives her a sympathetic insight into parental worries.

Mike Jones, Pat's son, brings a personal insight into dyslexic problems as he has overcome his own dyslexia and also taught at the Centre. He has been responsible for designing and developing the innovative Nesy programmes. www.nesy.com



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Registered Charity No. 1039105



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Specialist Tuition

English, Maths & Study Skills

Assessments

Educational Psychology, Speech+Language,
Occupational Therapy

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