

ADVICE ON CHOOSING A PRIVATE DYSPLEXIA TUTOR

HELP SHEET 8

Based on information from the British Dyslexia Association bda-dyslexia.org.uk

Once you have chosen the tutor who will be working with your child it is best to establish ground rules from the outset: The following suggestions could be useful.

Preliminary arrangements

Discuss with the tutor your expectations of the course of specialist lessons.

Provide the tutor with any paperwork you have regarding your child's dyslexia. This could include an up to date Chartered Educational Psychologist's report; specialist teacher's assessment; dyslexia screening assessment or feedback from your child's school. All of this information enables the tutor to get a rounded picture of your child and how best to work with them.

Discuss where and when the lessons will take place. It is possible for your child's school to approve absence for an educational activity including:

'Franchised pupils receiving part of their tuition at another location while remaining under overall supervision of the home school (ie a flexible arrangement short of formal dual registration). This can include special tuition for dyslexic children and sick children being taught at home but remaining on roll' (DfEE, Circa 10/99, page 40).

Ask the tutor for advice on how frequent and how long the lessons should be. If it is after school, your child may need an energy boost so provide your child with a snack but avoid fizzy drinks.

Discuss with the tutor on whether there should be parental involvement during the lesson. Confirm whether homework will be issued and whether there should be any parental involvement.

Discuss with the tutor on how you will be informed about progress or any concerns and how they will be communicated with you.

Advise the tutor on whether they will be required to liaise with your child's school and if they will be required to visit the school.

Agree a review date after half a term's tuition in order to make sure that your expectations are being met.



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Agreement on payment:

From the outset agree on the fees for the lessons but also ask the tutor for the following charges:

Fees for report writing if this is intended to be an additional activity.

Fees for teacher assessments if, and when, required.

Costs or arrangements in the case of cancellations.

Charges for any tutor out of pocket expenses eg

Fees for attending meetings, if any, eg with the school or Local Educational Authority

Telephone expenses

Additional resources etc

Qualifications and experience

We recommend that you check that your tutor has membership of a professional body such as **AMBDA** (Associated Member of British Dyslexia Association) or **ATS** (Approved Teacher Status) and or **PATOSS** (The Professional Association of Teachers of Students with Specific Learning Difficulties).

Check that your tutor is insured. PATOSS is able to arrange this for all members.

Ensure your tutor holds a DBS (Disclosure Barring Service) this has replaced the CRB (Criminal Record Bureau) police check.

WFDA has compiled a list of private tutors, available from our website wfda.org.uk, however we do not make recommendations. Alternatively visit the PATOSS website at patoss-dyslexia.org or the BDA website at accreditation@bdadyslexia.org for a list of local tutors to yourself.



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