



**DYSLEXIA  
ASSESSMENT**



Help-Line  
**0141-331-2121**  
**[www.dyslexiasw.com](http://www.dyslexiasw.com)**



The decision whether or not to be assessed for Dyslexia is a very personal one. Some people have been searching for an answer to their difficulties for a long time and are keen to 'get to the bottom of it'. Others want to have someone confirm whether or not they are dyslexic so that they can seek appropriate help and support to progress in life.

If you are seeking to be assessed for dyslexia there are a number of options. The only valid test for dyslexia is a Full Psychological Assessment for Dyslexia carried out by a qualified psychologist. There are numerous types of screening tests but these are only indicative of dyslexia and cannot confirm whether a person has dyslexia or not.

There are various assessment routes depending on age and circumstance, including

- SCHOOL ASSESSMENT
- PRIVATE ASSESSMENT
- JOB CENTRE PLUS
- GENERAL PRACTITIONERS
- FURTHER/HIGHER EDUCATION

## CHILD ASSESSMENT



Under new legislation ([The Additional Support for Learning Act](#)) schools have new obligations to support children who may have an additional support need. Under the Act parents now have the right to request a school and/or the Educational Authority to determine whether their child has additional support needs. In the case of dyslexia this would mean that the school or authority would usually be obliged to arrange a dyslexia assessment. This assessment will usually be carried out by an Educational Psychologist employed by the local authority in the case of government schools, or on a consultancy basis for independent schools. It may be necessary to argue your case to have this done, and you may have to wait for the assessment, depending on the resources of your local authority.

To access an assessment through a school or educational authority it is necessary to put a request to the school in writing, including reasons for the assessment to be carried out and any supporting evidence. It is very important to put this request in writing as a school is under no obligation to respond to verbal requests. This is a very complex area and many schools are reluctant to carry out assessments. For more information contact Dyslexia Scotwest on 0141 331 2121.

## PRIVATE ASSESSMENT

There is not, at the time of printing, a definitive list of psychologists who will carry out an assessment for dyslexia. However, an assessment can be arranged at Dyslexia Action (previously the Dyslexia Institute).

Dyslexia Action is a national educational charity which offers: -

- Psychological assessment
- Specialist teaching
- Teacher training
- Leaflets, publications, videos and teaching materials

At certain times of the year there can be a waiting time for the assessment (for which a fee is charged).

For further details contact Dyslexia Action

**Tel: 0141 334 4549**

**Email: [glasgow@dyslexiaaction.org.uk](mailto:glasgow@dyslexiaaction.org.uk)**

There are numerous other educational psychologists in the Glasgow area who can carry out an assessment and they can be accessed through the white and yellow pages.

## JOB CENTRE PLUS

The DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT ADVISER (DEA) can be contacted through the Job Centre Plus and can give advice to adults who suspect they are dyslexic if:

- They are not in training
- They are actively seeking employment
- They are in employment and their dyslexic type difficulties are affecting their present job

The following is the procedure to use if wishing to apply for an assessment by a Job Centre Plus Occupational Psychologist (however, please note that there is a limited Occupational Psychology resource across Scotland so assessment may take some time).

1. Contact Job Centre Plus and ask for an appointment with the Disability Employment Adviser.
2. If the Disability Employment Adviser thinks you have a dyslexic type problem you may then be referred to an Occupational Psychologist. The Occupational Psychologist may arrange to see you at your local Job Centre Plus.

3. If the assessment indicates you are dyslexic then the following help *MAY* be provided by Job Centre Plus:-

- Support in finding a job
- Liaison with prospective employers
- Training for employment
- Advice on Access to Work



### THE GP ROUTE

Dyslexia assessment is not normally covered by the NHS. However, your GP can be approached for a referral to an educational psychologist for an assessment of dyslexia, if there is an illness directly related to the dyslexia. An example of a related illness would be stress, depression or anxiety, and without this related illness it is unlikely that your GP will be able to help (for more information on this complex area please phone Dyslexia Scotwest on 0141 331 2121).



## STUDENTS

For students in Further/Higher Education it may be possible to organise an assessment through your college/university. Special Needs staff in colleges/universities should provide general advice, information and a wide range of services including possible help with assessments for dyslexia. The student may be required to pay for the assessment.

Each college / university has a different policy in relation to dyslexia assessment so you should not presume a dyslexia assessment will be available. However, generally colleges / universities have good policies on dyslexia and are supportive of dyslexic students.

If the assessment confirms dyslexia then the Special Needs staff should help prepare and submit a claim for Disabled Student Allowance. If this claim is successful funding may be provided for appropriate information technology equipment or scribes, notetakers etc. (Separate information leaflets for students are available from Dyslexia Scotwest)

Following consultation with our Service users our leaflets are prepared in Comic Sans font, size 14, on coloured paper as this is considered to be the most dyslexic friendly format.

**Open daily**

**Monday to Friday**

**9.30 am till 4.30 pm**

**Please phone before visiting our office to ensure that someone is available to see you**

**Dyslexia Scotwest**

93 Woodside Place Lane

Glasgow

G3 7RB

Tel 0141-331-2121

E-mail [info@dyslexiasw.com](mailto:info@dyslexiasw.com)

[www.dyslexiasw.com](http://www.dyslexiasw.com)

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this pamphlet, we cannot be held liable for changes that may occur.

