



## DistanceLearningCentre.com Ltd

### Dyslexia Policy and Procedure

The DistanceLearningCentre.com Ltd aims to ensure that learners diagnostically identified as having dyslexia will receive appropriate consideration in assessment on all accredited programmes.

The DistanceLearningCentre.com Ltd recognises the following definitions of dyslexia:

***'Dyslexia is evident when accurate or fluent word reading and/or spelling develops very incompletely or with great difficulty. This focuses on literacy learning at the word level and implies that the problem is severe and persistent despite appropriate learning opportunities. It provides the basis for a staged process of assessment through teaching.'*** British Psychological Report (BPS, 1999)

***'Dyslexia is a learning difference, a combination of strengths and weaknesses which affects the learning process in reading, spelling, writing and sometimes numeracy. Dyslexic learners may also have accompanying weaknesses in short-term memory, sequencing and the speed at which they process information.'*** The British Dyslexia Association (BDA, 2006)

Using these definitions in combination focuses on learners' word level skills but also accepts that other difficulties may occur in conjunction with or as a consequence of dyslexic difficulties.

Dyslexia is not a curable condition; however, its effects on study can be alleviated by specialist support together with awareness across the DistanceLearningCentre.com.

This policy recognises that research evidence continues to present new or conflicting ideas in relation to dyslexia and all attempts have been made to reflect the most contemporary information.

#### **Aims**

- To view dyslexia as a 'specific learning difference' that implies a range of strengths and weaknesses, as well as different learning styles and preferences
- To recognise that learning problems will arise if dyslexia has not been identified and teaching and learning support is inappropriate
- To meet the diversity of needs of dyslexic learners through appropriate, personalised and effective provision

The DistanceLearningCentre.com aims to provide high quality support for dyslexic learners by:

- Raising awareness and understanding of dyslexia within the DistanceLearningCentre.com
- Establishing clear assessment and support procedures
- Providing a needs-based combination of teaching adjustments and additional support
- Ensuring learner concerns are acknowledged and addressed
- Provide training opportunities for DistanceLearningCentre.com staff as and when required
- Ensuring that a consistent, objective and fair approach is taken so that dyslexic learners are neither disadvantaged nor unfairly advantaged

### **Promoting Partnership**

Learners' concerns about their needs will be acknowledged and appropriate evidence will be requested to inform subsequent discussion and support.

In the case of learners that have had dyslexia identified outside of the DistanceLearningCentre.com will be contacted by their tutor to discuss assessment outcomes and support plans.

Learners will be given advice and guidance on seeking help and support from external agencies.

The DistanceLearningCentre.com will seek to work in collaboration with external agencies in order to promote awareness and develop best practice.

### **DistanceLearningCentre.com Support for Learners with Dyslexia**

To invoke this policy learners will need to upload appropriate evidence (e.g. an educational psychologists report) to their learner account.

The DistanceLearningCentre.com will provide the following support for learners with dyslexia:

1. Extension of deadlines for coursework and assessments.
2. Extra time during written examinations which will be an extra 15 minutes allocated to each exam.
3. Oral examinations rather than written examinations.
4. Spellings in coursework and assessments will also be considered in light of this.

### **Dyslexia Support**

Further information and guidance about dyslexia can be found on the following websites:

British Dyslexia Association <http://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk>

Dyslexia A2Z <http://www.dyslexiaa2z.com>

Self Help UK <http://www.self-help.org.uk>

The Dyslexia Association <http://www.dyslexia.uk.net>