How the B.D.A are helping to create a dyslexia friendly society for all...
The British Dyslexia Association (B.D.A) is a national charity. Our aim is to achieve a dyslexia friendly society for all through listening, supporting and empowering people.

We are committed to ensuring that every individual with dyslexia is able to fulfil their potential, across all age ranges and sectors of society.

We believe we are the voice of dyslexic people and we have created this book so that we can share and inform our supporters, members and all interested parties about the work that have been doing in the last few years to achieve this vision. We also hope that our work and achievements to date may inspire new partners to come on-board and join us in creating a dyslexia friendly society for everyone, through **listening, supporting** and **empowering** people.
We ran training courses around the country, reaching around 7,000 teachers per year, as well as thousands of employers. The B.D.A. organises more than 500 training events a year. These are an excellent way to spread dyslexia awareness and knowledge.

The courses cover all aspects of dyslexia and dyscalculia. Onsite training (e.g., in service training for schools, colleges, Universities and employers) is also available. For more information, contact training@BDAdyslexia.org.uk or call 0333 405 4565.

We delivered subject specific conferences throughout the year, working with leading authorities to share the latest news and research on key dyslexia related topics.

The B.D.A. accredits training courses for Dyslexia/SpLD specialist Teachers/Assessors, working with around 30 course providers, mainly universities.
We have delivered several projects in the last few years that have supported the dyslexic community and delivered significant social impact thanks to voluntary and statutory funding. We are hugely grateful to all of our supporters and donors for helping us to deliver this impact and make a real difference for dyslexic people.

**Sound Check (2013-15)**

- 894 children recruited to the Sound Check intervention.
- More than 90% of children over the two years of the project improved their phonics scores.
- 85% of children overall show improved learning behaviours.
- 72% of year 2 children retaking the Phonics Check in June 2014 achieve the required level.
- Sound Check Cohort 2 children outperform a matched control group on all measures.
- 27 schools and 736 members of staff received training in phonics and dyslexia awareness.
- 564 parents/carers in 29 workshops received training in phonics and literacy learning.

**Children will Shine (2014-16)**

To date the B.D.A have been involved in running 10 Children will Shine projects in locations across England. The results from these projects have been very positive.

Across all 10 schools where we delivered the project in 2014, we can report on the outcomes and impacts as follows:

- All children reported an improvement in their self-confidence and significantly their confidence around literacy.
- In total we can report that all children made some progress in reading and spelling based on their standardised scores.
- On average from each project delivered to date we can report that ALL children reported making progress in their reading and spelling, with 30% of children making significant progress, 50% making good progress and 20% of children making some progress.

**Sound Check 2015-16 (6 schools in Hull/Scarborough)**

- 85 children take part in specialist teacher intervention schools.
- 27 children take part in Centres of Excellence.
- 89% of children show improved attitudes to learning.
- 90% of pupils increase their phonics check scores by a mean of 9.1 points.
- Boys outperform girls in mock phonics check by 12 percentage points.
- Attainment gap between Pupil Premium children and all other children narrowed to 1 percentage point.
- Attainment gap between SEN identified children and all other children narrowed to 8 percentage points.
“Thank you for bringing the life back into my boy, the progress he has made is amazing and has made a real difference to our home life.”

John’s Mum

There are some fantastic examples of children who have made huge progress as a result of attending a Children will Shine workshop:

For example, in 2 terms John moved 4 years in his reading age. Edie, Thomas and Moses couldn’t name letters of the alphabet at age 8, and have started reading within weeks of attending the workshops.
Helping Children to Shine (2016-17)

In 2016 we launched a new project called Helping Children to Shine project in Bracknell which has been developed to include support for children from the most deprived communities. This has been made possible with thanks to funding from The Masonic Charitable Foundation.

The aims of the project are to work with children to deliver improvements in their reading, writing, spelling, maths skills and self-esteem.

Also train teaching assistants to help increase the capacity and skills of those staff to support dyslexic children more widely within our education system.

To date the project has supported over 20 children and will run through to March 2018.

Knowl Hill School / Microsoft One Note Project (2016)

In the autumn of 2016 we delivered a project thanks to the support of Microsoft to prove the efficacy of their One Note product for children that are dyslexic.

The results for Reading Comprehension were particularly encouraging. Some caution must be exercised as the test used puts the student into a band of standardised scores rather than giving an individual standardised score. However, the results showed that 11 out of 16 of the young people moved from one band of standardised scores into the next band up.

The results would be considered indicative of potential good improvements in reading comprehension skills.

Notably, 15 out of 18 of the young people recorded a decrease in their Emotional Distress score following the intervention. Emotional wellbeing, self-esteem and self-confidence are often key issues for dyslexic young people, who may have experienced a sense of failure within the education system due to their struggles with the acquisition of literacy skills and other related problems.

Feedback from students and teachers pointed to a number of aspects of the tools that helped students with checking mechanisms, independent working and reduction in feeling embarrassed about their mistakes or weaknesses.

The results showed that 11 out of 16 of the young people moved from one band of standardised scores for Reading Comprehension into the next band up.
We are leading on a £750,000 Department for Education project to equip the school workforce with the skills to deliver quality teaching and support for pupils with dyslexia and other Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD).

**Dyslexia/SpLD Support project 2016-17**

Teaching for Neurodiversity, Train the Trainer - 45 events delivered Sep 2016 - Jan 2017.

**Numbers trained:**
- Primary: Delegates = 1,115; schools = 816
- Secondary: Delegates = 372; schools = 274
- Post 16: Delegates = 448; colleges/educational establishments = 280
- Additional 3 events to be delivered Feb / March 2017 (1 at each level)
- 6 webinars delivered Jan / Feb 2017
- 20+ dyslexia friendly teaching videos developed
- New portal developed providing links, information and resources to support dyslexia people, their families, teachers, and employers.
23,000 enquiries for help via our National Helpline.

We receive more than 23,000 enquiries and requests for help via our National Helpline, (by phone and e-mail). This service is free and confidential, for teachers, parents and employers, as well as dyslexic individuals.

Our information, guidance and signposting is impartial, enabling the caller to make important choices and decisions for themselves. The Helpline number is 0333 405 4567.

There has been over 1 millions sessions on the B.D.A. website from over 800,000 users in 2016, with more than 2.7 million page views. We have seen an extra 20,000 people accessing the site compared to the previous year. It is a marvellous source of accurate, authoritative information about dyslexia

www.bdadyslexia.org.uk

We have used social media to spread the word, including Twitter @BDAdyslexia, and Facebook www.facebook.co.uk/bdadyslexia and 4,000 new people have joined us this year taking our total followers to over 24,000. Do join us!
Continuously campaigning for dyslexia awareness.

We have been instrumental in the campaign to get dyslexia awareness into all initial teacher training. This included following up on the Carter Review into teacher training (Carter Report 2015), arguing for a decent level of training in dyslexia in all initial teacher training.

We have continued to campaign for implementation of the positive recommendations of the report.

The B.D.A. runs a variety of training courses and accredited level programmes for education staff working with all ages and levels of learners, with the aim of helping them to better support students who have dyslexia and specific learning difficulties.

These courses are delivered in a number of ways, including:

- Open Training courses
- Onsite Training
- eLearning
- NEW for 2017: Accredited Level 5 Programme
- SASC Accredited Training
- Music Learning and Dyslexia
- B.D.A Summer School

For more information, contact training@bdadyslexia.org.uk
Each year the B.D.A. lead on the Dyslexia Awareness Week campaign. In 2016 the campaign focused on the identification of dyslexia.

We delivered:

- The B.D.A brand appeared on stickers on thousands of packs of Black Farmer sausages being seen by people in supermarkets across the UK and starting conversations across tea time tables about dyslexia that may never have otherwise happened!
- Over 1,000 people have now taken a free screener off the back of this on pack campaign that may not ordinarily have taken the time to find out if they could be dyslexic.
- We had over 19,000 page views on the Dyslexia Awareness Week pages on our website during the 2016 campaign.

Quality Mark and Policy

During the course of the year, 40 schools worked towards a Literacy Leap award, including receiving whole school training in Awareness of Dyslexia and other SpLD.

We have drafted policy on areas where clarification is needed in how individuals with dyslexia should be treated to be able to access education, services or employment. This included working on changes in driving tests which are difficult for dyslexic people, reasonable adjustments for music exams at all ages and what skills a support worker for a dyslexic person needs.
Supporting the work of the B.D.A

Contact us

We are always keen to welcome any enquiries for potential clients or collaborative partners. Please do contact the relevant department to talk to us today;

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This publication was developed by the British Dyslexia Association, if you require this publication in a different format or for further copies please contact; media@bdadyslexia.org.uk or alternatively you can call 0333 405 4555

To find out more about you can support the work of the B.D.A as an individual, corporate, organisation or trust please do contacts us at: fundraising@bdadyslexia.org.uk

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