

Personal statement.

I wish to re-nominate myself as an organisational member of the trustees board because I have seen first-hand the impact on the dyslexic community that effective trustees have. I appreciate there is much work still to do.

I have in the past and will in the future (if successful) carry out the responsibilities of Trustees both individually and jointly. I previously served on the Accreditation Board.

I believe in helping all people (in line with equalities agenda) with dyslexia to reach their potential and believe they must have the support and opportunities that they are entitled to. I'm committed to supporting the current legislation and furthering opportunities for people with dyslexia in the workplace, further and higher education and in primary and secondary schools. I'm committed to making this support a reality rather than a theoretical but often unattainable and unavailable concept.

I fully endorse the aims and objectives of the BDA, have supported my fellow trustees and enjoyed the delights of Bracknell, especially Ocean House!

My interest and commitment come from being a dyslexic learner myself and in having to overcome dyslexia in the workplace.

I have two dyslexic sons aged 22 and 19. They have both had to fight for their entitlement particularly during primary and secondary education, but also in university with the current attack on DSA funding.

Sadly I had to taken my local authority to tribunal twice, both successfully. I realise that not all families have the finances, cultural capital and knowledge that would allow them to pursue this route. This is an equalities issue that I would very much like to improve.

I work as the manager of Lyndhurst Dyslexia Centre (A state funded resource based within and in a London primary school) I work with families and their dyslexic learners to help them understand their difficulties and to overcome them. I am a specialist teacher and I am qualified to assess both dyslexia and dyscalculia.

Part of my role

My role encompasses training TAs, teachers and SENCOs to better support for dyslexics in their schools. I have also undertaken SENCO and LA advisers training for the BDA and presented at a BDA National Conference. Back in the day I was one of the expert advisors for Sir Jim Rose Review (2009). I currently attend All Party Parliamentary Group meetings.

If my nomination is successful you can be assured of my full commitment to the BDA and the decisions of the Trustees.

Mark Sherin 21/01/20