

Dyspraxia

Children with dyspraxia may present with difficulties with self-care, writing, typing and other educational and recreational activities. There may be a range of other associated difficulties, including social and emotional difficulties as well as problems with time management, personal organisation and planning.

Many people with dyspraxia also experience difficulties with memory, perception and processing. They may have additional problems planning, organising and carrying out movements in the right order in everyday situations. Dyspraxia can also affect articulation and speech, perception and thought.

How YOU can help your child:

Having a child with dyspraxia affects the whole family. You may find that you gear all family life around the needs of that child. It is possible that brothers and sisters feel neglected. To help everyone, you could:

- Try activities which involve the whole family equally
- Encourage each child to develop their own hobbies and interests so that comparisons are irrelevant
- Talk to your partner about the problems and be open about how you both feel
- Try to arrange time each week to concentrate on each child, and on your partner
- Take time for yourself and keep in touch with friends
- Join a local support group.

Here in London there are a couple of groups, but perhaps the nearest one to TCS is the **Dyspraxia Foundation Westminster Group**. They are contactable via Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/DyspraxiaFoundationWestminster>

By email at team@dyspraxiawestminster.org.uk

Or through their website www.dyspraxiawestminster.org.uk

How TCS can help your child:

Before the start of term, the Learning Support Department will be preparing Pupil Profiles and assessing the needs of, and provisions for, each new student to ensure there is sufficient support in place. As part of that support we have a team of trained Learning Support Assistants whose role is to provide in-class support. They can help with:

Breaking down activities and tasks into smaller components

Ensuring your child understands all instructions given by the teacher

Helping your son/daughter organise themselves in class

Additionally, during Year 7, we may suggest that your child takes part in various interventions:

- Transition Support Group during Term 1
- A Social and communications Group to help them develop their communication skills.
- Designated Person will be assigned to them from the Learning Support Department
- We have a system of 'Time Out' cards allowing the student to leave their lesson and come to the Learning Support department to cool down for a few minutes.

Other methods we have to help your child access the curriculum are:

Speech and Language Therapists – who will work with your child with the aim of developing their language skills.