

Welcome to the first Dyslexia Working Party E-shot, hosted by the Dyslexia Scotwest website. We are using this as a way of disseminating information about the Professional Development Award in Supporting Individuals with Dyslexia in Learning and Workplace Settings (Dyslexia PDA). Please forward it to your friends and colleagues who can be added to the E-Shot Database by contacting Jean Alcock at jean@jarcs.co.uk

Database

Since the launch of the Dyslexia PDA in November, we have been putting together a database of organisations and individuals who are interested in the Dyslexia PDA either because they are:

- an SQA centre wanting to deliver the Dyslexia PDA
- individuals wanting to do the qualification
- trainers wanting to offer their services to SQA Centres

We aim to use this database to keep track of what is happening with the Dyslexia PDA. According to the information gleaned from the recent online survey we know that

- 3 centres are offering the PDA at present,
- 6 are planning to offer it, and
- 19 might offer it in the future.

Centres see this Dyslexia PDA as a good tool for staff development and also for working with their local community learning partnership. Some also see the benefit of offering the first unit to the general public. However, sometimes it is difficult to achieve sufficient numbers to run the course. We think that this is one area in which we can help by putting prospective candidates in touch with Centres looking for more bookings. It is early days but we hope to build up a system whereby Centres will alert us that they are advertising the course so that we can pass this information on.



Training for Trainers Courses

1. Trainers with Dyslexia Experience

One of the main stumbling blocks to centres offering the PDA is lack of knowledge about what it involves. To improve the situation we are offering a Trainer for Trainers course for trainers with an existing knowledge of dyslexia.

This 3 day course will be held in Glasgow on 3 consecutive Wednesdays in June. Full details can be found at www.jarcs.co.uk/dyslexia.html.

If there is sufficient demand we will run this course again and can be fairly flexible about the location. Glasgow was chosen this time because, from the online survey, it appeared to suit most respondents.

2. Trainers without Dyslexia Experience

Another stumbling block is lack of knowledge about dyslexia, or the need to refresh knowledge, on the part of trainers. The Dyslexia Working Party recommends that these trainers should first complete the Dyslexia PDA as candidates before offering it others. If there is sufficient demand we will consider offering the Dyslexia PDA tailored to meet the needs of such trainers. Please register your interest by contacting Jean Alcock at jean@jarcs.co.uk or speak to any of the Dyslexia Working Party members

Resource Pack CD ROM

The Resource Pack CR ROM can be ordered from Dyslexia Scotwest, 93 Woodside Place Lane, Glasgow G3 7RB Tel: 0141 331 2121 info@dyslexiasw.com at a cost of £55. This aim of this CD is to assist tutors in delivery of the Dyslexia PDA by providing them with tutor notes, handouts, activity sheets and assessment guidelines for the Units. It also contains all the official SQA document relating to the PDA. It is also a useful resource for those delivering Dyslexia Awareness Sessions.



The Dyslexia Working Party

The Dyslexia Working Party is an informal partnership of practitioners who are passionate about improving the support available to adults with dyslexia in learning and workplace settings. The current members are:

- Fiona Dickinson (Educational Consultation & Training)
- Claire Thom (Learning for Sure)
- Joan Rowe (Jewel & Esk Valley College)
- Jean Alcock (JARCS Jean Alcock Research & Consultancy Services)
- Duncan Cumming (Dyslexia Scotwest)

It is supported by Don Mackie (Learning Connections)

Removal from the e.shot database

If you do not wish to remain on this database, please cut and paste this into the subject line of an email

"Dyslexia PDA E-Shot database – please remove my address"

and send it to info@dyslexiasw.com and jean@jarcs.co.uk

Kind regards

Jean Alcock

Working Party Co-ordinator