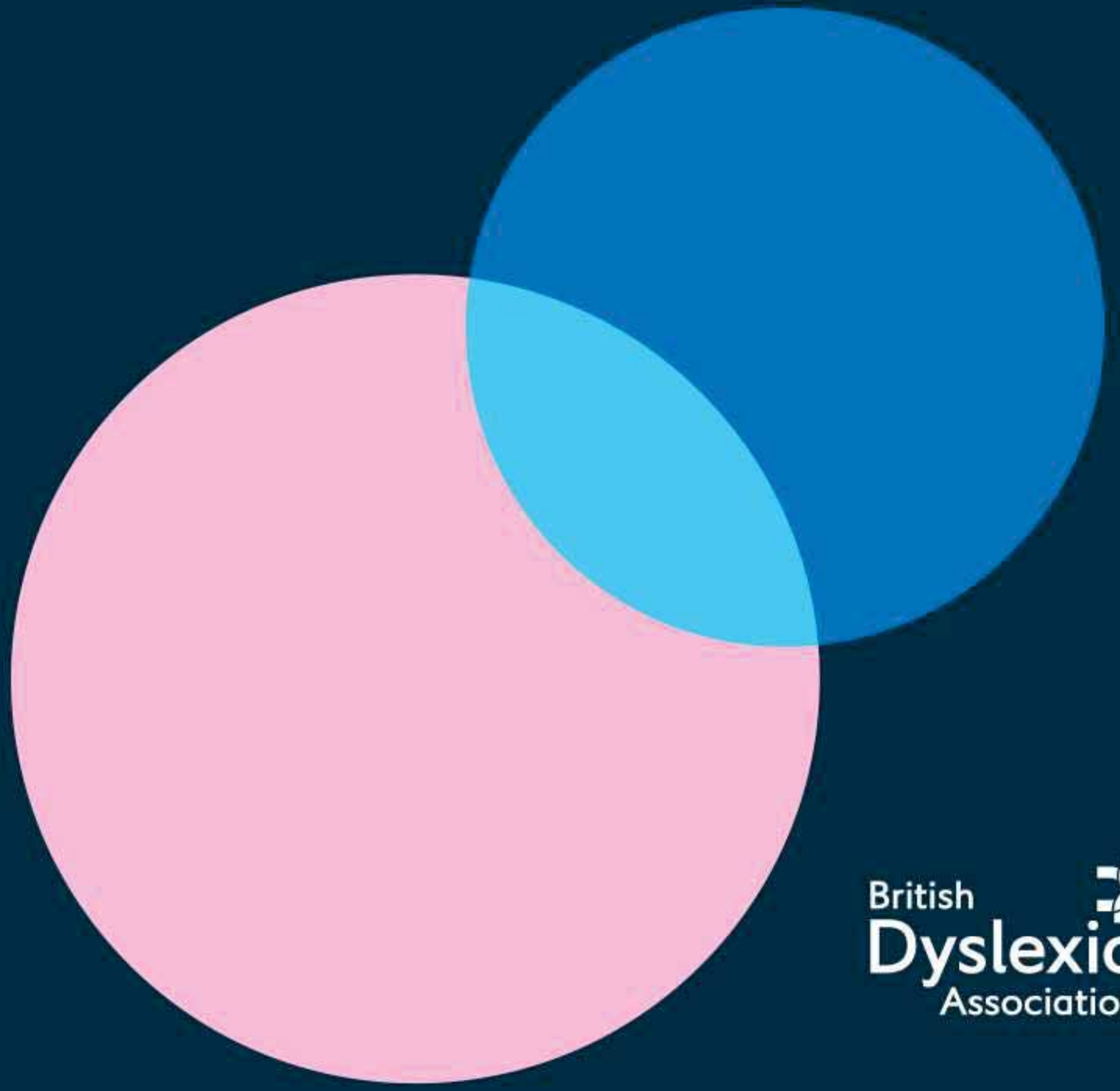
Dyslexia:
RAISING THE VOLUME

#DAW25 Secondary School Assembly



British Dyslexia Association

What is dyslexia?

Dyslexia is a specific learning difficulty which primarily affects reading and writing skills. However, it does not only affect these skills. Dyslexia is actually about information processing. Dyslexic people may have difficulty processing and remembering information they see and hear, which can affect learning and the acquisition of literacy skills. Dyslexia can also impact on other areas such as organisational skills.
It is important to remember that there are positives to thinking differently. Many dyslexic people show strengths in areas such as reasoning and in visual and creative fields.

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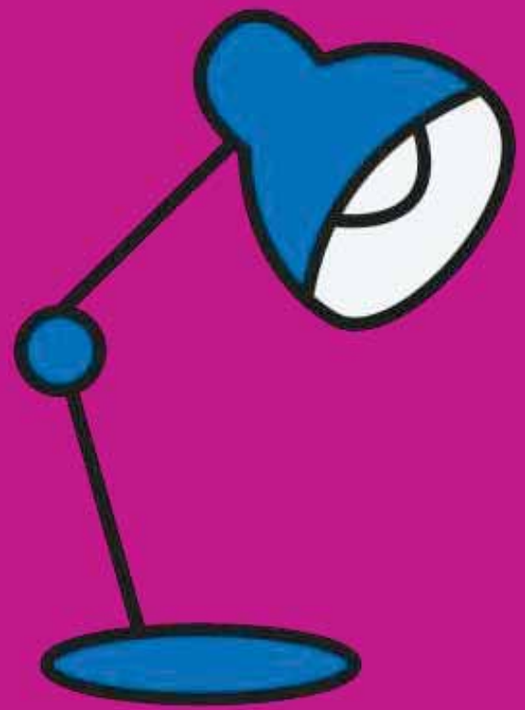

Dyslexia Awareness Week (#DAW25)

#DAW25 is all about **raising the volume** on young people with dyslexia.

There is lots of information out there about dyslexia but what are the simple facts?

Have a go at our simple quiz and see how much you really understand about dyslexia.

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Question 1

- Dyslexia affects 1 in 10 people
- Dyslexia affects 1 in 10,000 people
- Dyslexia affects 1 in 5 people
- Dyslexia affects 1 in 1,000 people

REVEAL

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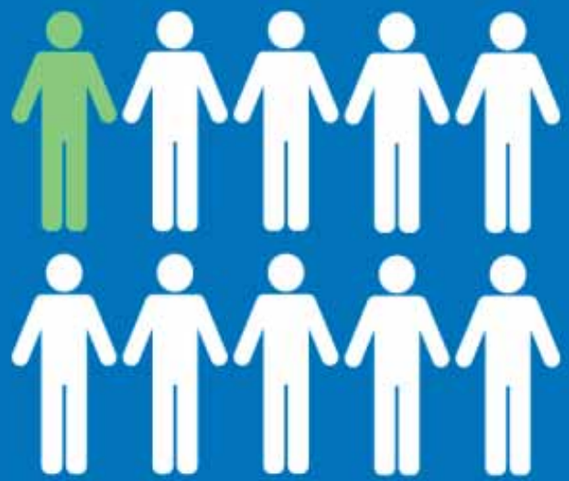

Dyslexia affects 1 in 10 people.

That means that over 1 million young people in schools across the UK have dyslexia. At least three people in every classroom, and many people are undiagnosed.

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Question 2

Imagine you have a classmate with dyslexia. Reading can be tricky but what else might they struggle with:

- Remembering homework
- Spelling
- Reading out loud

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Dyslexia makes it harder for some people to read, write and spell. It might also be harder to remember things such as homework that has been set, or the date that you need to hand it in.

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Question 3

Everyone with dyslexia has the same difficulties:

- True
- False

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False

Dyslexia is different for everyone. Each person experiences it differently and has their own strengths and challenges.

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Question 4

Which of these famous people do you think have dyslexia?

- Tom Holland
- Noel Gallagher
- Ami Charlize
- Jamie Oliver

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The answer

They are **all** dyslexic and have openly shared their experiences (both good and bad) of living with dyslexia.

There are lots of celebrities that are changing perceptions of dyslexia.

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Question 5

Which of these is the real challenge for people with dyslexia?

- Vision problems
- How the brain processes language
- Letters moving and appearing backwards
- Trouble with eyesight

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How the brain processes language.

Dyslexia affects how the brain processes letters and words. It does not affect vision. Some people with dyslexia have visual stress and it is this that causes words to move or flip, this is not a characteristic of dyslexia.

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Question 6

Dyslexia is something that you will grow out?

True

False

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Dyslexia is lifelong and cannot be cured BUT with support and help at school, people with dyslexia find out how to use their strengths to help with things that they find challenging.

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Question 7

Dyslexia is about effort - if you work hard enough, you won't have challenges?

- True
- False

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False

Trying harder really doesn't work and can be incredibly frustrating. Dyslexic people need to learn things in a different way, and that is ok.

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Question 8

Which of these features can help with dyslexia?

- Dictation software
- Spell-checker and grammarly
- Phone and calendar reminders
- All of the above

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There are some great apps to help with organisation, spelling, dictating and listening to messages. These are great to use and can really help support the challenges that come with dyslexia.

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Recap - Dyslexia...

A lifelong difference in how the brain processes words.

Everyone's experience is different.

Can make reading, spelling, and writing harder.

Has nothing to do with intelligence.

Can affect memory and organisation.

Many dyslexic people are creative problem solvers.

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