

## SAOU WEBINAAR: Disleksie | Dyslexia (2021/02/17)

Vrae voortspruitend uit die SAOU Disleksie webinaar soos beantwoord deur die aanbieder, Sandra Stark / Questions emanating from the SAOU Dyslexia webinar as answered by the presenter, Sandra Stark

- Does dyslexia go hand in hand with dyspraxia?
   No. Dyspraxia may be a co-morbidity of dyslexia, but they do not go hand-in-hand.
- 2. Do you not think that the lack of importance of spelling go hand in hand with the use of technological devices, such as automatic spelling correction, which could conceal the diagnosis of dyslexia?

Dyslexia is present from birth. Teaching of correct spelling skills, rules, grammar and phonetics in the foundation phase, is of utmost importance. Early detection of dyslexia is therefore important before children are introduced to technological devices.

I do however not underestimate the negative impact of abbreviated, vowel-free text spelling on young learners.

Repetition, practise and drilling of spelling for the non-impaired child remains the most important skill for future writing.

- 3. Who can diagnose a learner for dyslexia?
  - A professional occupational therapist, speech therapist, psychologist, optometrist, audiologist & psychometrist registered with the HPCSA and who have have completed their SHDA Professional Training.
- 4. Is there any way for a teacher to be qualified to do this?
  - No, since it is a neurobiological condition the HPCSA rules are clear about who may and may not diagnose learning disorders.
- 5. Kan die graad van disleksie verskil?
  - Ja, daar is 6 ernstigheidsvlakke.
- 6. Kan een leerder erge disleksie hê en 'n ander leerder disleksie hê wat skaars geidentifiseer kan word?
  - Ja, dit is moontlik.
- 7. Is daar leesboeke met prente in (soos gedemonstreer) beskikbaar om af te laai? In Engels ja. VOOKS. Ek is nie seker watter Afrikaanse leesboeke beskikbaar is nie.
- 8. Kan swak handskrif op sy eie dien as disleksie of het dit altyd te doen met omkerings?

  Daar moet onderskei word of disgrafie teenwoordig is wanneer handskrif 'n probleem is. Ons bespreek volgende week die 3 tipes disgrafie.
- Kan die disleksie lyer ondersteun word deur die gebruik van Irlen lense?
   Vir sekere leerders help gekleurde lense om die kontrasensitiwiteitsfunksie van die disleksiese leerder te verbeter.

Die kontrasonderskeidingsvermoë van 'n dislektiese persoon is aangetas weens die defektiewe magnosellulêre visuele baan van die oë.

Sommige leerders wat nabypuntspanning ervaar met leestake, mag selfs vinniger lees met sekere gekleurde lense.

10. As leerders met al daardie "difficulties" sukkel, beteken dit hulle sukkel om die woorde te sien?

Hulle sukkel om die simbole te ontsyfer.

Indien 'n leerder nie sukkel om te lees nie, maar sukkel met die ander "difficulties", is dit nog steeds n teken van disleksie?

Dit mag moontlik so wees want disleksie is beslis ook 'n spellingprobleem. Een van ons volwasse disleksielyers kan 600+ woorde per minuut lees, want hy het 'n spoedleeskursus gedoen, maar hy is steeds ernstig dislekties en kan nie spel nie. Daarom het hy sy Teologie eksamens op 'n rekenaar m.b.v. 'n spraak-na-teks program, afgelê.

11. What age are children diagnosed as dyslexic?

A specific diagnosis can be made from grade 3 (the year in which the child turns 9 years of age). Learners from grades R to 2 who present with difficulties and a family history of dyslexia, may be assessed with the Junior assessment to determine whether a dyslexic pattern is present.

12. How can I motivate a parent to take a child for assessment? The child has been assessed by a psychologist.

Enquire whether the psychologist is a SGDA specialist and whether there is a family history of learning difficulties or problems at school. Explain then to the parents that it is possible that their child is suffering in school and probably not performing as expected due to dyslexia. Also be sure to inform the parents that dyslexics are very bright, intelligent human beings that require a diagnosis in order for them to get the necessary accommodations and support they deserve to make them succeed at school and reach their full potential.

13. If a child only has a problem with spelling but is doing well in maths could this still be dyslexia?

Definitely. Many dyslexics are brilliant at Maths, for example Albert Einstein.

14. Must child show symptoms from all spectrums to be diagnosed with dyslexia. No, not necessarily. Symptoms and signs may differ.

15. I am a Grade 2 Educator, I would like to know how do you differentiate between a child who did not receive a good foundation on reading and writing to a child who has dyslexia.

Number 1: Was the child school ready to begin with? If not, one would start with intervention therapy and start teaching learning to read from scratch. If he/she was school ready and all perceptual skills are normal, and repetitive structured literacy programs were followed in grade 1, and this child still remains to struggle with reading, it is a sure sign of possible dyslexia.