**Recognising Dyslexia : Characteristics of dyslexia**

**Pre- school and Early years:**

Concern may be raised if the child shows some or all of the following:

* Forgetfulness,
* speech difficulty,
* reversal of letters,
* difficulty remembering letters of the alphabet,
* difficulty remembering the sequence of letters of the alphabet,
* a history of dyslexia in the family,
* co-ordination difficulties e.g. bumping into tables and chairs,
* tasks which require fine motor skills such as tying shoelaces,
* slow at reacting to some tasks,
* reluctance to concentrate on a task for a reasonable period of time,
* confusing words which sound similar,
* reluctance to go to school,
* signs of not enjoying school,
* reluctance to read,
* difficulty learning words and letters,
* difficulty with phonics (sounds),
* poor memory,
* co-ordination difficulties,
* losing items,
* difficulty forming letters,
* difficulty copying,
* difficulty colouring,
* poor organisation of materials.

Primary School

**After around 2 years at school**

* hesitant at reading therefore has poor reading fluency,
* poor word attack skills –difficulty decoding new words and breaking these words down into syllables,
* poor knowledge of the sounds of words,
* difficulty recognising where in words particular sounds come,
* spelling difficulty,
* substitution of words when reading for example ‘bus’ for ‘car.’

Later stages in primary school

* as above, but also,
* behaviour difficulties,
* frustration,
* may show abilities in other areas of the curriculum apart from reading,
* attention and concentration difficulties.