

DYSLECSIA CYMRU- WALES DYSLEXIA FUNDED TRAINING:

Accredited Workplace Assessors / Passport for Work Programme

Dyslecsia Cymru- Wales Dyslexia training course. (Maximum: 10 trainees/participants).

The First session will be held on 8th April 2010 at Trinity University College, Carmarthen.

The British Dyslexia Association (BDA) has launched a programme of accreditation for work based assessors who offer assessments to individuals with dyslexia or other the Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLDs). The aim of the programme is to help those in the field be aware of the most recent research and applications in this area. It will also enable those looking for an assessor to select from a list of assessors who have relevant accreditation. The programme will offer greater confidence and credence to work based assessment as the BDA is independent and does not offer work based assessment itself. The pilot has been very successful and even those with considerable experience in this area of work, have said that they have learned a lot more and enjoyed it greatly.

The Programme's Objectives

The programme fulfils the following objectives:

- Individuals will have an awareness of the 7 Specific Learning Difficulties and how these can manifest themselves in adults, understand the issues of co morbidity and be aware of latest research
- Current strategies and coping mechanisms, including both organisational and behavioural strategies as well as assistive technology solutions, will be shared and opportunities for on going updating will be introduced so that the most recent and full range of strategies are available to these assessors.
- Assessors will be kept up to date on current developments in screening and psychological assessment.
- Information on new case law or changes generally to relevant legislation will be disseminated. An understanding of positive employee relations will be encouraged. Assessors will share a code of conduct for relationships with clients and employing organisations and the assessment process.

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The Programme Timetable and Methods

There are a number of strands to the programme, as follows:

1. Training Workshops

There are 4 training workshops available for the programme. These workshops are:

- (a) The 7 Specific Learning Difficulties and what this can mean for adults.
- (b) Coping strategies and reasonable adjustments. This includes both self and time management, organisational strategies and assistive technology. A wide range of actual cases and solutions are studied throughout the day.
- (c) Workshop on screening tests. This examines the background to administering tests and also enables participants to “try out” three market leader test programmes.
- (d) The Law, Employee Relations and the Assessment Process.

The programme is accredited through Credit4Learning OCN. There is no desire to insist on someone who already has this knowledge attending unnecessary workshops. However, in order for the individual to gain external accreditation for the programme, they would need to produce satisfactory and comprehensive evidence of recent acquisition of this knowledge in a systematic way.

2. Membership of BDA

Individual membership of BDA for one year is automatically included in the programme. This will ensure that assessors receive Contact magazine, can take part in a specific dialogue with other assessors through our web based discussion activities, and get 10% off our open training courses and conferences to aid their CPD.

In future years, assessors will need to maintain their membership of BDA to continue to receive the benefits of the programme.

3. Continuous Professional Development

There will be a specific opportunity annually for CPD for assessors which will be built into the programme.

For further information, or to express an interest, please email Anna Salisbury at admin@welshdyslexia.org or telephone 0808 1800 110.