The History of Dyslexia Project at the University

Dyslexia is the subject of intensive research by psychologists and educationalists. It has not, however, been studied by historians. Yet dyslexia has a history, even if it is one that has yet to be told. The first paper was published in the British Medical Journal in 1896, and in the last fifty years there have been significant advanced both in understanding its causes and in finding ways of remediating it. At the same time, people with dyslexia and, still more, the parents of the children who are dyslexic have campaigned for better treatment. Both these trends have shaped public policy and practice in schools. There is also a history to be written about the experience of being dyslexic.

This project is a collaboration between psychologists Kate Nation and Maggie Snowling and the historians Robert Evans and William Whyte. It is funded jointly by The John Fell Fund and The Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund at the University of Oxford.

At the Heart of this research is the dyslexia archive. It is an attempt to provide the first repository of material relating to the subject. This already included the archives of pioneering experts on dyslexia, and a series of oral testimonies. We hope to build on this with the acquisition of new material, and would be very grateful for your help in expanding this resource.

Your name:

Click here to enter text.

Your contact details - email or telephone number :

Click here to enter text.

Archival materials (letters, files, conference proceedings, etc) which you could make available:

Click here to enter text.

Suggestions for individuals we should interview:

Click here to enter text.

Suggestions for groups, institutions, organisations, or specialists schools we should contact:

Click here to enter text.

Any other comments:

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Please return to William.whyte@sjc.ox.ac.uk or Professor William Whyte, St John’s College, Oxford, OX1 3JP. If you do not wish to be contact by us again, please tick this box: [ ]