

The International Teaching Diploma in Dyslexia and Literacy

Awarded by Dyslexia Action

September 2012 Course

<http://training.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/international>

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Mission Statement

"Our vision is a world where barriers to learning, employment and personal fulfilment have been removed for people with dyslexia and other specific learning difficulties".

About Dyslexia Action

We are a national charity that through education improves the lives of people with dyslexia and other specific learning difficulties. With over 30 years of experience, Dyslexia Action is the UK's leading charity in this area, providing a range of services and support for both children and adults including assessments (testing), teaching and training and the development and distribution of teaching and learning materials. Dyslexia Action conducts major research in the field of dyslexia where our tried and tested methodologies are widely accepted nationally and internationally. Our vision is that:

- We are passionate and professional
- We are ambitious for people with dyslexia and with learning difficulties
- We care about quality services
- We respect individual differences

About Dyslexia Action Training and Professional Development

We provide training programmes for specialist teachers and other professionals. These include Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses, postgraduate programmes and awareness raising courses and webinars.

About this Brochure

Disclaimer

This document is subject to regular revision and replaces any earlier version produced by Dyslexia Action. Whereas every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this document Dyslexia Action Training and Professional Development is unable to provide any warranty concerning the accuracy or completeness of any information contained herein and in the associated web pages. Dyslexia Action reserves the right to make changes to the information given. Applicants will receive additional, current information during the admissions process and on joining their chosen course.

Dyslexia Action Training and Professional Development assumes no responsibility or liability for any injury, loss or damage incurred as a result of any use or reliance upon the information and material contained within its publications or downloaded from its website.

Accessibility

If you would like to receive a copy of this document in large print or in another format, please contact Dyslexia Action Training and Professional Development directly for assistance.

Explanation of Terms

Candidate – The person applying for a course

Participant – The person who is studying the course

Learner – The pupil/student that the course participant does any practical work with

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Course Information

The Dyslexia Action International Diploma in Dyslexia and Literacy is a level 4 qualification for international participants. The Diploma is split into two courses: Part A and Part B. The International Diploma Part A Course involves 4-5 months of study and then the International Diploma Part B Course takes another 5 months.

Qualifications at Level 4

The Dyslexia Action CPD units and qualifications equate to Level 4 on the UK Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF). The Office of the Qualifications and Examinations Regulator (Ofqual) in the UK defines Level 4 as follows:

“Achievement at Level 4 reflects the ability to identify and use relevant understanding, methods and skills to address problems that are well defined but complex and non-routine. It includes taking responsibility for overall courses of action as well as exercising autonomy and judgement within fairly broad parameters. It also reflects understanding of different perspectives or approaches within an area of study or work.”¹

Candidates who complete the course to a satisfactory standard will receive a Course Certificate. Participants may request a course transcript, listing all the units studied, but there will be an additional charge of £25 for this.

Following the International Diploma and Teaching Diploma progression pathway will equip participants with the skills to provide practical teaching.

Who is the course for?

The Dyslexia Action Teaching Diploma online course is for Teachers and Teaching Assistants who have successfully completed the International Diploma, Parts A and B.

What are the entry requirements?

Applicants should:

1. Have successfully completed the International Diploma in Dyslexia and Literacy, Parts A and B.
2. Have a minimum English language ability level such as Cambridge 1st Certificate Grade B (see <http://www.cambridgeesol.org/exams/general-english/fce.html>), TOEFL 550 points (see <http://www.ets.org/toefl/>) or IELTS 5.5 (see <http://www.ielts.org/default.aspx>)

¹ Ofqual: Regulatory Arrangements for the Qualifications and Credit Framework August 2008

What will I gain from doing the Level 4 Courses?

This course is designed to:

- provide participants with the technical knowledge and skills needed to put into practice the theoretical understanding gained in Parts A and B of the International Diploma
- provide the technical knowledge necessary to foster language awareness in learners with dyslexia.
- examine the history of the principles of literacy intervention in order to foster an appreciation of why certain methods are effective, where others have failed,
- give an in-depth understanding of the rationale for some tried and tested resources such as Alpha to Omega.
- explain the placement process to provide participants with the necessary background knowledge and skills to place learners at the correct stage of an intervention programme.
- provide advice and practice in structured lesson planning to ensure that participants learn to apply the principles of structured, sequential, multisensory and cumulative tuition during the 11 week teaching intervention programme.
- give successful participants the knowledge and skills to place learners on, and deliver, an appropriately individualised, structured, cumulative, multisensory literacy programme.

Demands of the course

The Teaching Diploma is a demanding level 4 programme. Although the course is delivered through online learning, enabling a flexible form of study, participants will need to develop good personal time management and to hone the study skills relevant to e-learning. Participants will require a quiet and clear space in which to work. Participants will need to be able to balance the demands of their studies with existing work and home commitments in order to gain the qualification.

For the International Teaching Diploma candidates must be able to undertake a Teaching Intervention Programme with one learner, commencing with a placement session. This programme will be over a period of four to five months.

Where will I study?

The International Diploma programme uses the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) known as Moodle as the method of delivery. The core curriculum is delivered by means of a range of e-learning resources. These include presentations, articles, exercises, videos and follow-up activities and tasks for participants to carry out at intervals. This course includes a Teaching Intervention Programme which the participant will undertake with one learner, either within their school/work environment or at the learner's home.

How will I be taught?

Each participant has a personal tutor who supports them through the course. Participants also work together with their colleagues on the course via contributions to discussions on Moodle forums. This enables all those involved to get to know one another and to develop a community of learning practice with other participants and tutors as the course progresses.

How much time will I devote to the course?

The Teaching Diploma requires between 5 and 10 hours of study per week.

Will I be doing practical exercises with a learner/group of learners?

Participants will be working with learners on practical elements of some Units. This will give the opportunity to integrate theory with practice.

The learner required within Unit 2 for practice of core lesson routines can be a family member. The learner required for the Teaching Intervention Programme within Units 2 and 3 **must not be a family member.**

The criteria for selection of a learner for the Teaching Intervention Programme:

- minimum age of 7, maximum age of 14
- should be underachieving in literacy (it is not a criteria that the learner has a diagnosis of dyslexia)
- English must be the language the learners predominantly use in school to access the curriculum. Learners who are struggling with English as an additional language are not suitable for the practical elements of the courses. All lessons within the Teaching Intervention Programme must be delivered in English.
- avoid a learner with a complicated profile

The learner selected for the Teaching Intervention Programme must be available between 20th November and 9th April. If the learner is going to be away for more than 2 weeks during this time (excluding the period around Christmas: 20th Dec 2012 - 3rd January 2013) he/she will not be suitable for this intervention.

It is the responsibility of participants to select suitable learners to work with.

Participants will work with the learner for a minimum of 8 and maximum of 11 weekly, 1 hour lessons. Prior to the lessons commencing the participants will work with the learner to determine the starting point within the teaching programme. This will require a placement session of 1-2 hours' duration.

Will I need to have a CRB check?

Dyslexia Action assumes that as course participants will already be working with children or young people, they will have met the necessary local police or government criminal record checks concerning work with children and/or young people in school/college settings. Applicants for the Dyslexia Action International Dyslexia and Literacy Programme should have suitable written confirmation /permission as required by their own country's laws. We reserve the right to request this information from you or to terminate a programme where we feel it is not in the interests of the learner to continue. Dyslexia Action Training and Professional Development will not assume responsibility nor will accept liability incurred as a result of any participant or learner being engaged in this programme.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is continuous and will include written assignments, practical activities and contribution to Moodle forums.

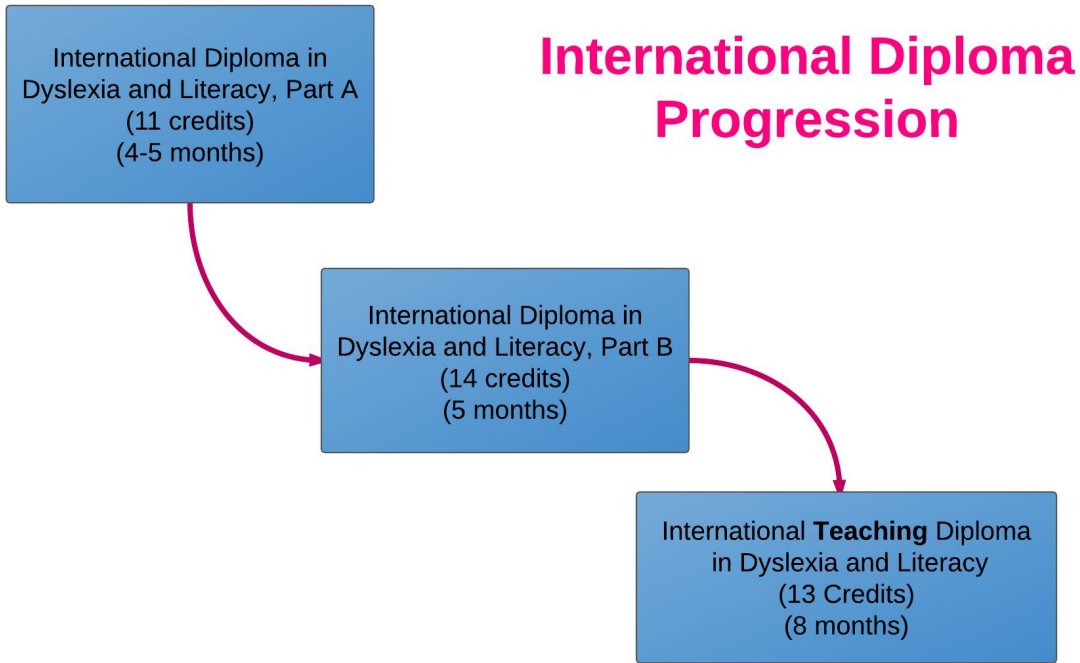
As part of the assessment of practical tutoring, participants will be required to record a minimum of one lesson with their learner for tutor observation.

Participants will be supported by a tutor who is an experienced practitioner in the field of dyslexia. Assignments will be submitted to the tutor via Moodle on a regular basis.

There are no examinations.

Progression Pathway

The Dyslexia Action International Diploma Programme has been designed to build a progression pathway at Level 4.



Candidates **must successfully complete** the International Diploma Part B Course to apply to study the International Teaching Diploma. Candidates should normally start the Teaching Diploma within 2 years of passing Part B. After 2 years, candidates may be able to continue on the programme or use the credits towards other Dyslexia Action qualifications. This will be dependent on the decision of the Programme Director.

Course Units

Hours of learning time

Learning time is defined as the time taken by participants at the level of the unit, on average, to complete the learning outcomes of the unit to the standard determined by the assessment criteria.²

The International Teaching Diploma consists of **three Mandatory Units**:

Mandatory Units	All units must be passed.	Hours of Learning Time *
DAIT01	Fostering Language Awareness for Learners with Dyslexia	30
DAIT02	Principles of Literacy Intervention for Learners with Dyslexia	50
DAIT03	Developing Literacy Intervention for Learners with Dyslexia	50
	Total	130

* The number of learning hours includes the time needed for planning and delivering the teaching intervention programme.

² Ofqual: Regulatory Arrangements for the Qualifications and Credit Framework August 2008; p12

2012-2013 Fees

Course	Paid in full before the start of the course
International Teaching Diploma Course	Participants who started the International Diploma Part A before Sept 12: £1,175 if this course is started before August 2013. 2012/2013 fee: £1,350

These course fees will be honoured until July 2013.

Additional Costs

Core Reading

International Teaching Diploma	Kennedy, Professor G., 2003, <i>Structure and Meaning in English</i> , Longman
International Teaching Diploma	Hornsby B., Shear F., Pool J., 2006, <i>Alpha to Omega Teacher's Handbook, 6th Ed.</i> , Heinemann

Suggested Reading

International Teaching Diploma	Townend, J. and Walker, J., 2006, <i>The Structure of Spoken and Written Language: Spoken and Written English</i> , Whurr
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Resources

Course participants will need a set of wooden letters . Books and resources can be purchased from the Dyslexia Action Shop at: <http://store.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/> . (The wooden letters are not required for the International Diploma Parts A and B).

Postage Fees Participants will have to pay a fee to cover the postage of certificates (and where requested, a course transcript) on completion of each course. Participants will be notified of this fee once they register.

Guild Membership

Candidates are encouraged to become members of The Dyslexia Action Guild, a membership network and professional association for practitioners in Dyslexia and SpLD. The aim of the Dyslexia Guild is to keep members up to date with developments in the field and to encourage networking/contact between members. Membership also offers free access to paid webinars and some course discounts. We are also developing an online library of resources. See: <http://training.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/guild>

2012-2013 Course Dates

Course	Start dates
International Teaching Diploma in Dyslexia and Literacy	18 th September 2012, March 2013 (date to be confirmed)

Dyslexia Action Training and Professional Development reserves the right to change course start dates and/or schedules and the right to cancel any programme where candidate numbers are insufficient to warrant the course taking place.

In this case candidates will be offered places on alternative programmes or a full refund of fees will be available.

Application Details

Applying for the International Teaching Diploma in Dyslexia and Literacy Course

The Course Administrator will register participants for the next available course. An email will be sent asking how payment is to be made. An invoice will be raised and emailed to the participant with a payment link.

Financial Terms and Conditions

Please see details of cancellation and withdrawal charges and other financial terms and conditions on the website at <http://training.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/international>

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