

Using ICT to Support People with Dyslexia

An AbilityNet Workshop

Fee £125 (+VAT) per delegate

An introduction to computer software and strategies which can support people who have dyslexia and other reading or writing difficulties.

The course includes:

- Why a computer can help ... and useful free “adjustments”
- Better spell checking and automatic correction ... without cost
- Effective options for presenting text on the computer screen
- Useful help with Homophones and other confusions
- Word prediction and word banks, Planning tools and mind mapping
- Scanning and optical character recognition
- The computer reading text back – Text to Speech
- Voice recognition... potential and reality, current systems, criteria for choice

Comments from participants in previous dyslexia seminars

- *“I had no idea what was possible.”*
- *“... practical ideas, even for computer-phobes ...”*
- *“I will be able to pass on some terrific ideas to colleagues”.*



Text Prediction



Text to speech

Find out how to make the most of IT to support people with Dyslexia and other reading or writing difficulties

Course Content

The course consists of seminar interlinked with hands-on sessions. There will be explanation and demonstration of a “dyslexia toolkit”. IBM-compatible PCs will be used which run Windows XP (not Windows Vista). The hands-on work will be in groups of three or four. Each group will work on several areas, reinforcing knowledge through direct experience. These sessions will be focussed around free and cheap solutions, text to speech, word prediction and word banks, and multi function packages.

Aims

The day is designed to give participants a working understanding of computer-based “get round” techniques for dyslexia. It will enable participants to:

- Ensure that facilities that are available on basic computers are used and not missed
- Help individuals to choose and use the techniques most effective for them
- Make good use of support and advice offered by charities, statutory bodies and suppliers
- Develop policy and practice to bring help to bear
- Implement a range of ‘reasonable adjustments’ towards compliance with DDA and SENDA legislation

Who should attend?

- Special Educational Needs Coordinators
- Learning support and teaching assistants
- Representatives of LEA Support Services
- Disability Coordinators
- Anyone interested in supporting Dyslexic employees
- Teachers and tutors in schools, colleges and universities
- Educational psychologists
- Social workers, probation officers and others with a special interest
- Representatives of groups working with dyslexia

AbilityNet

AbilityNet is a charity whose aim is to make the benefits of computers available to people with disabling or limiting conditions. Through our national offices and regional partners AbilityNet provides a freephone information and advice line, individual assessments and awareness training.

Our independent, non-profit status enables us to evaluate and compare all available alternatives without bias. Our approach is practical and pragmatic, judging the value of an idea by its real usability rather than its technical sophistication.



Keyboard stickers



Mind mapping software



Note taker

To book your place, please complete a booking form, call AbilityNet Courses Administrator on Tel: 01926 465167 or email courses@abilitynet.org.uk