Develop Us

Specialist Tuition

We offer specialist tuition for children and young people with learning difficulties. The one-to-one sessions are delivered by qualified specialist teachers in a suitable setting, both in person and remotely. Our strength lies not only in the strategies we use to develop our programmes, but in the expertise and experience of our tutors. They have an in depth understanding of how to meet the needs of individual students with Specific Learning Difficulties, including: Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Dyscalculia, ADHD, Autistic Spectrum Disorder and Specific Language Impairment. Our specialist tutors have a recognised qualification, which guarantees they have the knowledge and skills to support their learners. The tutors supporting dyslexic learners are Associate Members of the British Dyslexia Association (AMBDA), which indicates a high standard of professional competence in both diagnostic assessment and teaching. All tutors are members of a professional body, which ensures they maintain their training through attending continual professional training and follow a professional Code of Ethics. All tutors have an up-to-date DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check and professional indemnity and public liability insurance.

How does it work?

An individual support programme will be specially designed to address the students' individual needs and to build on their strengths. It may include work on basic literacy and numeracy, reinforcement of learning causing difficulty at school, college or university and study skills tuition aimed at developing own strategies for efficient learning.

How much does it cost?

Pre teaching consultation is £60. During this time we will conduct assessments to find out the students' current attainments.

One-to-one specialist tuition is £45 per hour for students up to year 12.

One-to-one study skills support is £57 per hour for students in higher or further education.

One-to-one specialist tuition is £45 for adults.

Where does it take place?

One-to-one tuition takes place at a location most suitable for the student or via Zoom.

Zoom Tuition

There are many other online web based educational tools; however, Zoom is our preferred choice. Develop Us has successfully trialled this method of tuition and is happy to offer this method of tuition to our students. Our experience has also found that whilst adults are mostly 'IT immigrants' and hence may consider this method of tuition a second best alternative, many of our Students are 'IT natives' and do not find the idea of lessons delivered through E-learning anything other than normal.

Overseas students

Time zones permitting we extend this service to English Students with Dyslexia, who are currently resident Overseas.

Higher education students

Not all students in Higher Education who need support with their studies are in receipt of Disabled Students Allowance (DSA), funding for Specialist Study Skills Support, which is provided free by Student Finance. However, they may benefit from specialist study support to ensure they maximise their results whilst at University. We have tutors who are highly experienced in offering study support to students in Higher Education which ensure that our tutoring standards are in line with current best practice for students who receive DSA support. Online tuition, using Zoom, is very well suited to students studying away from home, who are tech savvy and who already access most of their course information using online platforms such as Moodle or Blackboard. Sessions can be booked regularly, or during the day as needs arise, for example during revision periods for exams, end of unit assessments and dissertations.

What happens after submitting a request for one-to-one tuition?

The information provided by you in the one-to-one tuition booking request form will be considered within 7 working days, and a suitable tuition session with one of our specialist tutors will be offered to you. We will ask to see for any diagnostic assessment reports or school progress reports that you have for your child. This will help us assess your/your child's needs and allocate a suitable tutor. If you are interested in support over Skype, you will be asked to provide your Broadband Speeds as without good connection lessons would be frustrating.

Your tutor will also be honest and suggest ceasing lessons if they feel this style of learning is not suitable for your child.

Pre-teaching consultation

This session takes place between yourselves and a specialist teacher. In this time some base line assessments will be carried out of reading comprehension, reading accuracy, writing speed and spelling ability in order to determine the start point for lessons. However, as many students have already had recent assessment from a specialist, in these cases this session will be the start point. During the pre-teaching session your child will have the opportunity to practise logging on and off Zoom for their lesson, learning how to use the 'chat', how to share screen and set up logins on some of the online resources we use. We also use Google Drive, as a cloud-based file sharing system and we will set this up together during the pre-teaching appointment. After this meeting, if applicable, you will be sent a resource box and some additional resources we think will be useful. This is dependent on age, and curriculum levels. The resource box has all the stationery they will need, an A4 white board, exercise books, etc.

What is taught during a session?

We use a range of effective multisensory techniques focusing on:

- Reading – reading accuracy, speed, fluency and comprehension
- Spelling
- Writing – handwriting neatness, writing speed, content and technical accuracy, fluency and style
- Grammar and specialist vocabulary
- Listening skills
- Auditory processing skills
- Memory skills
- Phonological awareness
- Numeracy skills
- Study Skills and revision techniques
- Organisation and time management skills
- Communication skills
- Short term memory development techniques

We use recognised interventions to support individual needs, including Alpha to Omega and Active Literacy Kit by Dyslexia Action. The Alpha to Omega programme offers practical help in teaching reading, writing and spelling to adults and children with learning difficulties, including dyslexia. It is a carefully structured programme which closely follows the normal pattern of phonological language acquisition. The Active Literacy Kit is designed to support all learners of 7 years and over who experience literacy difficulties, whether dyslexic or not. The programme offers a series of timed exercises which build the foundation skills needed for automatic,

fluent and accurate reading and spelling. Carefully structured activities cover phonological awareness, word recognition, phonics, graphic knowledge and spelling.

We can work with your child's school or college by designing a framework of intervention, which can be reinforced by teachers/teaching assistants following a short, free training session with us.

A typical lesson

Understandably, parents ask what a typical lesson 'look likes'. Each child's lesson is planned as a personal and individual lesson with targets appropriate to them. All our lessons last 1 hour. We use board games, individually targeted worksheets and online learning resources. Children will be asked to use their exercise books and white boards to practise and consolidate skills. As students get older, we use Google Docs, with and without voice to text software, to support their homework skills. We develop softer skills, including planning written assignments, organisation and use of academic language that develop their higher order thinking skills. In addition, we begin to develop revision and exam skills.

For younger children

The lesson is divided into four shorter activities. For literacy, these may focus on developing phonological skills; teaching accurate reading decoding using structured cumulative multi-sensory programmes based on Alpha to Omega; developing reading comprehension and understanding, improving single word spelling, developing handwriting skills, developing sentence structures, grammar and punctuation. This often needs to start with writing very short sentences, legibly written and accurately punctuated using a capital letter and full stop.

If the lesson is numeracy based, there will be time to develop such skills as: telling the time, learning times tables, developing key mathematical vocabulary, and focussing on how to answer mathematical questions embedded in 'word problems'. This is an area that many students with Specific Learning Difficulties find challenging. The lesson will focus on the strands in maths that your child is finding difficult: Using and applying maths, Number, Shape Space and Measures or Handling Data.

Upper Key Stage 2 and transition to Secondary Key Stage 3

By this stage, we may change activity within a lesson in order to develop concentration, tenacity and higher order thinking. However, the lesson would still be

subdivided with activities. Most of our students continue to require support with their basic literacy or numeracy skills but need longer periods of time to develop their higher skills in preparation for reading and writing across the curriculum or applying their maths skills. In Year 6 we will support their approach to Key Stage 2 SATs to reduce stress and support self-esteem. Year 7 students may have their first experience of formalised internal exams in school halls, so we will develop time management skills and suitable exam support study skills.

Key Stage 4

By Key Stage 4, we hope that your child will begin to develop intrapersonal skills and control the content of the lesson more. Most of our students at this age will have a study skills-based lesson. It will focus on the essential GCSEs, e.g. English Language and Maths, but it will remain flexible to allow support with revision and preparation for GCSEs that students aim to do well in to be able to study Post 16. Many students have Exam Access Arrangements, e.g. 25% extra time, a reader and/or a scribe, and our lessons support our students in how to make the most of these. Some of our students, with severe dyslexia, Specific Language Impairment and or dyscalculia will sit Functional skills Maths and English. Therefore, we will continue to support them to pass these so that they can make progress after Year 11.

Can I take my child out of school for tuition?

You can take your child out of school for tuition if agreed with the school. This is classed as an 'approved educational activity', which will not affect attendance figures.

Why have specialist tuition?

Specialist tuition is crucial for those with dyslexia because it can help them overcome their difficulties in areas such as reading, writing, and spelling. A dyslexic child can experience challenges in these areas, which can severely impact their academic and personal life. Specialist tuition can address these challenges in the following ways:

1. Cater to individual learning needs: Specialist tuition can personalise learning according to the individual needs of the student. This can include specific tools, and techniques to teach effectively.

2. Use multi-sensory teaching: Children with dyslexia often have issues with phonological awareness and processing of sounds. Specialist tuition can use multi-sensory techniques to help children learn, like colourful pictures, objects to

manipulate, and a tactile approach which creates more connections in the brain.

3. Give the appropriate support: Through specialist tuition, children with dyslexia can receive professional support to overcome the challenges of their condition. They can be taught techniques to manage their disorder, such as time management, note-taking and memory aids.

4. Build confidence: Dyslexia can impact self-esteem, so specialist tuition provides a safe, supportive environment that can help the individuals build confidence in their academic abilities.

5. Help overcome challenges: Specialist tutoring can support children with dyslexia in developing compensatory cognitive strategies so that they can learn effectively. By contrasting their neural pathways, students can learn to create and strengthen new connections and ultimately develop thriving problem-solving skills.

By accessing specialist tuition and educational support, children with dyslexia can access the appropriate intervention they need to build the self-confidence, skills and resilience to succeed academically and personally.

Tuition Service Terms and Conditions

These terms apply to all tuition and consultation services provided by Develop Us. By booking a session or consultation, you agree to these terms.

1. Initial Consultation and Assessment

A mandatory **Initial Pre-Tuition Consultation** must be completed before any regular tuition sessions can begin.

- **Cost:** The fee for this consultation is **£60**.
- **Purpose:** During this time, we will conduct essential assessments to determine your child's current attainment levels in word reading and spelling. This allows us to create a tailored and effective learning plan.

2. Tuition Fees and Payment

- **Session Cost:** Our standard rate for children's tuition is **£45 per hour**.
- **Payment Schedule:** Tuition fees must be **prepaid in full for the entire term** prior to the start of the first session.
- **Non-Refundable:** All prepaid term fees are **non-refundable**. This policy secures your child's dedicated time slot with our specialist and covers the fixed costs of providing our specialist service.

3. Cancellation and Rescheduling Policy

Your commitment to attending scheduled sessions is vital for your child's progress and our service efficiency. When a session is cancelled or missed, we lose the ability to book another student and still incur costs for our specialist's time.

A. Cancellations and Missed Sessions

- **Standard Charge:** All cancellations or failures to attend (no-shows) will result in a **100% session charge**. The prepaid session fee will be forfeited.
- **Notification:** You **must notify Develop Us** as soon as possible if your child is unable to attend a scheduled session.

B. Rescheduling Requests

- If you notify us of an absence at least 7 days in advance. We will **attempt to reschedule** the session within the current term.
- **Please Note:** Rescheduling is not guaranteed and is subject to the specialist's and facility's availability. If we cannot find a suitable alternative time, the session will be lost for that week and the full fee will still apply.
- **Too Late for Charge Avoidance:** Notification given *after* a missed appointment or session will be too late to attempt rescheduling and will result in the 100% charge.

4. Termination of Contract

Develop Us reserves the right to terminate our contract and cease providing tuition services if there are **repeated instances of no-shows or late cancellations**. If the contract is terminated due to repeated non-compliance with the attendance policy, prepaid fees will not be refunded.

Key Parent Takeaways (Summary)

- **Initial Step:** Book and pay for the **£60 Pre-Tuition Consultation** first.
- **Payment:** Pay for the **full term (£45/hour)** before tuition begins. These fees are **non-refundable**.
- **Attendance:** Give us as much notice as possible for any absence. All late cancellations or missed sessions incur the **full fee**.
- **Rescheduling:** We will *try* to reschedule notified absences, but it is **not guaranteed**.

Notice of cancellation should be given by calling us on 07575 678 567 or emailing info@developus.wales