

Children's Services
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26 September 2005

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to write to you, in advance of the Norfolk launch, at the 10th Special Needs Conference and Exhibition, of the 5th edition of Achieving Dyslexia Friendly Schools Resource Pack. The pack, which is enclosed with this letter, contains information that you will find invaluable in planning effective support for those who experience specific learning difficulties.

Children's Services is committed to inclusive education in Norfolk. Early identification of specific learning difficulties like dyslexia, and the provision of suitably differentiated teaching, is a key component in ensuring inclusion and is now a prime requirement of DfES and Ofsted.

Children who experience specific learning difficulties (dyslexia) seem to process information differently than the majority of their peers. This resource pack, which is an updated version of one sent to you three years ago, provides information to help identify and make provision for children with dyslexia. The key message, however, is that what is good for children with dyslexia can also work well for all children.

To support the aim of an inclusive schools system, the British Dyslexia Association has introduced a national project to set a quality mark on provision by Local Authorities, details of which are in the pack. It is our aspiration for Norfolk to be a Quality Marked Authority.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as I can at Special Needs Norfolk on 11th October, at Norwich Sport Village. Staff from Educational Psychology and Specialist Support (EPSS), working in partnership with the Norfolk & Norwich Dyslexia Association, will be pleased to provide you with further advice and information concerning dyslexia.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Christensen
Director of Children's Services

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Further copies of this pack can be obtained through the BDA Publications and Resources Catalogue from R-E-M, Great Western House, Langport, Somerset TA10 9YU. Or via the publications website www.r-e-m.co.uk/bda
Tel: 01458 254750