

# Dyslexia students in need

**PAT HEATON B.Ed. (Hons) M.Ed.**

Royston Dyslexia Unit

and

**Gina Mitchell B.A. (Hons), Ph.D.**

University of Bradford

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# Contents

Preface	vii
How to use this book	ix
About the authors	xi
Acknowledgements	xiii
Introduction	xv
The questionnaire	xix
Checklist (Are you dyslexic?)	xxi
Screening & Assessment (a basic guide)	xxiii
<b>Chapter 1    Returning to learning</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Chapter 2    Study Skills</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Chapter 3    Advice from other students</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Chapter 4    Survival Techniques</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Chapter 5    Key Resources</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Chapter 6    Assessment: coursework or examinations?</b>	<b>33</b>

<b>APPENDIX 1</b>	Financial support for students with dyslexia	39
<b>APPENDIX 2</b>	Financial support for students with dyslexia on healthcare courses	44
<b>APPENDIX 3</b>	Note-taking: Common abbreviations	45
<b>APPENDIX 4</b>	Note-taking: EXERCISE	47
<b>APPENDIX 5</b>	Note-taking ('Spider' plan): EXAMPLE	50
<b>APPENDIX 6</b>	Note-taking: A MODEL	51
<b>APPENDIX 7</b>	Formal writing and basic referencing: EXAMPLE	52
<b>APPENDIX 8</b>	Aids to memory (mnemonics): EXAMPLES	54
<b>APPENDIX 9</b>	Find your own learning style: EXAMPLES	57
<b>APPENDIX 10</b>	Link words and phrases: EXAMPLES	58
<b>APPENDIX 11</b>	Key words in essay titles: DEFINITIONS	59
<b>APPENDIX 12</b>	Sentences: EXAMPLES	62
<b>APPENDIX 13</b>	Assistive technology: DETAILS	63
<b>APPENDIX 14</b>	Revision and exam techniques: ADVICE	66
<b>APPENDIX 15</b>	Case history 1	69
<b>APPENDIX 16</b>	Case history 2	78
<b>APPENDIX 17</b>	Building on your strengths (Karen and Tim)	81
	<b>References and Resources</b>	93
	Computer programs	93
	Helpful books	94
	Useful addresses	95
	<b>Index</b>	97



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# Preface

It has been estimated that 10 per cent of the population are dyslexic, though many are thought to conceal their problems to avoid the stigma associated with the disability. However, despite this, evidence suggests that the number of dyslexic students entering Further and Higher education has increased significantly.

Currently, this category of disability numerically outstrips all others; it is further distinguished by its definition as a learning disability, which can create a crippling level of underachievement if appropriate support and remediation are not forthcoming.

In addition, a recent survey has indicated that 43 per cent of those with dyslexia in Further and Higher Education are identified only after embarking on their degree and higher-level studies.

The factors outlined above indicate that there exists an urgent need for accessible and practical advice not only for those with dyslexia but also for teaching and administrative staff in colleges and universities offering courses and places to a wide range of students.



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# How to use this book

Many students will benefit from starting with the Checklist and Screening and Assessment (Flow Chart) – see pages xxi and xxiii.

However, you may prefer to choose a particular chapter from the Contents, page vii.



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## About the authors

**Pat Heaton** has been screening and teaching dyslexics for more than 20 years. She is Director of Teaching at the Royston Dyslexia Unit and her published works include *Dealing with Dyslexia*, *Learning to Learn*, *Parents in Need*, and the *Pat's Cats* and *Pam and Tom* reading schemes.

**Gina Mitchell** works in the Disability Office at the University of Bradford and has responsibility for the screening, diagnosis and support of students and staff who have dyslexia. Her first contact with dyslexia occurred when her eldest child was found to be dyslexic at primary school. At that time, she was a mature student herself and she went on to work in higher education as a lecturer and examiner.