

# Literacy and Dyslexia Support (LDS) – Free Community Clinic Information Sheet

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What is the purpose of the Clinic?	To provide a solution for students who lack access to Local Authority services or private assessments.
What motivated the Clinic?	As an experienced Specialist Teacher and Assessor working privately and for London Local Authorities, I frequently witness how limited school resources and personal finances hinder the early identification of literacy needs. It is frustrating to assess GCSE and A-Level students whose needs have been unsupported for years, often leading to disengagement, anxiety, and other mental health challenges. A recent, personal experience motivated me to provide this space in our community.
How can the Clinic be offered for free?	Well, kind local community sponsors, as well as partnering with the stunning Venue 28, who share the same vision for improved literacy in our community. Also donating my skills and expertise for free, to do what I can to be part of the solution.
Is there a qualified Specialist Assessor running the clinic? How can I check?	<p>Yes. I am a qualified Specialist Teacher &amp; Assessor, with a current Assessment Practising Certificate (APC). I am also an Associate Member of the British Dyslexia Association (AMBDA):</p> <p><b>Antoinette Lindesay</b>  <b>AMBDA, (ATS (BDA), SpLD APC (BDA)</b>  <b>PG Dip, PG Cert, PGCE (Primary), BA</b>  <b>(Hons) Education &amp; Psychology</b></p> <p>Please check for APC status using this link with my full name  <a href="https://www.sasc.org.uk/find-an-assessor/">https://www.sasc.org.uk/find-an-assessor/</a></p>
Will there be any costs for parents/schools?	This is a free community clinic. The only potential cost will be the cost of the assessment papers- £10, which will be clearly communicated to parents. I am currently in talks with potential sponsors

	<p>to provide free assessment papers– fingers crossed!</p> <p>Of course schools &amp; parents are free to buy any of the services I provide outside of the Clinc. <u>However the Clinc is completely free, assessments at the Clinic are completely free (excluding potential assessment paper costs), any reports or meetings offered to discuss the outcome of assessments will be completely free.</u></p>
What <b>is</b> the assessment?	<p>In contrast to many on-screen assessment tools, the Dyslexia Screener used by LSD is not an on-screen tool but instead an individualised assessment administered by a Specialist Assessor. A report is generated that can be used to make recommendations for teaching and learning. Ideal for children whose performance in literacy is causing concern.</p> <p>This assessment <b>will be</b> evaluated to discuss indications of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-current attainment (reading, spelling, speed of writing)</li> <li>-cognitive profiles (working memory, processing speed, phonological processing abilities).</li> </ul>
What this assessment <b>is not</b>	<p><b>Please note this is not a diagnostic assessment and cannot be used to apply for DSA (Disabled Students Allowance).</b></p> <p>This assessment <b>will not</b> give a diagnosis of Dyslexia or any version of a diagnostic decision. Only a full diagnostic assessment can accurately identify Dyslexia.</p>
Do I hold an Enhanced DBS?	Yes – details of which can be provided
What happens on the day?	<p>Assessments are app. 45 mins</p> <p>Parents will be asked to stay in the room during the assessment.</p> <p>Reports will be emailed to both parents and School SENCOs</p> <p>An optional Zoom meeting for parents and SENCOs will be offered</p>

