

The philosophy underpinning the BDA Quality Mark is that changing practice to accommodate dyslexic individuals often results in good practice for everyone.

The BDA Dyslexia Friendly Quality Mark award is an external sign of approval widely recognised not only in the UK but also internationally. The BDA Dyslexia Friendly Quality Mark aims to provide a framework of support and understanding for schools within which the dyslexic individual can build on existing skills and talents as well as develop new skills. Such a framework ensures that all within the school have a good knowledge of the needs of the dyslexic individual and that resources are available to meet such needs. This in turn is likely to lead to greater levels of achievement and retention for all learners.

The Dyslexia Friendly Quality Mark for schools is made up of standards that cover 4 key areas, these are:

Standard One: Leadership and Management

The criteria that make up this standard are concerned with policies embedded within the school to support dyslexic learners and require schools/Academies to evidence that such policies are firmly rooted into day to day practice within their learning environment.

Standard Two: What is the quality of learning?

This standard comprises criteria that investigate the level of expertise and knowledge of staff to identify and support dyslexic learners as well as evidence of effective use of appropriate intervention strategies.

Standard Three: Creating a climate for learning

The criteria stipulated will, for example, investigate evidence of appropriate marking policy being utilised throughout the school/Academy, demonstrating that students are marked on their knowledge and understanding rather than poor spelling etc.

Standard Four: Partnership and Liaison with Parents, Carers, Governors and other Concerned Parties

The criteria will explore the signposting opportunities provided to parents and how accessible they are. It will also look at the processes in place for response to concerns raised by parents.