



## Learning support at Matrix

We are validated by Middlesex University and unfortunately as such Matrix students are **unable** to get direct learning support from the University.

However, we can help you by offering tailored support for your needs. In the past we have encouraged students to apply for essay extensions, we provide all documents in readable fonts such as Calibri or Arial, teaching staff will be informed of your needs before they teach you at weekends and staff use a multiplicity of teaching strategies to encourage different learning styles. Above all we support you to make your needs known and to ask for the help you need from us.

We encourage any student who feels they may be dyslexic to have an assessment.

### Dyslexia Assessment

There are three stages of dyslexia assessment that a home student studying on an eligible HE degree course of study needs to go through to get Disabled Students Funding (DSA).

More information is available at <https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas/overview>

The stages of assessment are:

**1.** An initial dyslexia screening: If the screener feels there may be a risk of dyslexia they would refer the student on for a diagnostic assessment. It is not always essential to have a screening – a student can go directly to have a diagnostic assessment if they have previously had a test at school or feel they may have dyslexia or other specific learning difficulty. As we are not able to assist students on validated courses with the dyslexia screening, students might find useful the dyslexia check list provided on the BDA website to give more of an idea of whether or not they should go for a full diagnostic assessment. More information is available at:

<http://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/about-dyslexia/adults-and-business/i-think-i-might-be-dyslexic.html>

**2.** A Dyslexia Diagnostic Assessment: these can cost in the region of £300 to £400. Again there is information about the assessments, how to contact a qualified/recognised assessor on the BDA website at:

<http://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/dyslexic/getting-an-assessment-for-dyslexia>

Students would need to have a full diagnostic assessment to obtain the necessary evidence of their disability before they are able to apply for DSA funding to Student Finance England (SFE). Once they have the agreement from SFE that they are eligible for DSA funding they would then need to go on to have the Assessment of Needs.

**3.** An DSA Assessment of Needs is carried out at an Access Centre to establish what a student needs during their time at university. This final Assessment of Needs is carried out by an Access Centre. There is one in the Disability Dept. at Middlesex University. Any student who is eligible for DSA according to their status as an HE student can attend any Access Centre for an Assessment of Needs – the cost of which comes out of their DSA funding. The name of the Access Centre at Middlesex is: North London Regional Access Centre and their email address is: [adminac@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:adminac@mdx.ac.uk).