

Go to Guide – Dysgraphia.

Purpose of this guide: This guide has been created to support and guide teachers when supporting students with Dysgraphia in the classroom.

What is Dysgraphia?

Dysgraphia is a neurological disorder of written expression that impairs fine motor skills and writing. It is a Specific Learning Disorder. Dyslexia and Dysgraphia are two distinct neurological conditions, but they are easy to confuse because they share symptoms and often occur together. Dyslexia is a learning difference that makes it harder for students to read. Dysgraphia involves difficulty with the act of writing.

Tips/Strategies to support students with Dysgraphia:

In order to improve spatial perception, orthographic coding (ability to form, store and recall letters, numbers and symbols), language processing and conceptualization, the following strategies can help:

- Use of a word processor in class
- Using a pencil grip
- Copying letters from models
- Connecting dots or dashes to complete letter forms
- Using tracing paper to model letters
- Keeping lines within mazes to develop motor control
- Covering the letter with a small card and imaging the letter in the mind's eye
- Activities to improve fine motor skills- for example pricking out seedlings in horticulture, using scissors in floristry
- Explicit instructions on the spelling of high frequency words and vocational vocabulary