

LEARNER NEWSLETTER

Hello, welcome to the June edition of our learner newsletter.

We would love to hear your ideas and suggestion of content you would like to be included in our future editions. Please scan the QR code to share your thoughts and ideas.

Share your thoughts and ideas!



PRIDE MONTH

50th
anniversary

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the first Pride march in the UK - a day when hundreds of LGBTQ+ people and their allies arrived in London to protest a society where people were not safe to be themselves.

Pride Month is the whole month of June dedicated to celebrating the LGBTQ+ communities all around the world. It's about people coming together in love and friendship, to show how far gay rights have come, even if in some places there's still some work to be done.

Pride Month is about teaching tolerance, education in pride history and continuing to move forward in equality.

You can learn more about the history of pride here :

<https://www.stonewall.org.uk/our-work/campaigns/lgbt-history-month-2023>

Check out the below podcast: <https://www.internationalsos.com/podcast/pride-month>

Here are some useful websites for support

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/lgbtqia-mental-health/useful-contacts/>
<https://mindout.org.uk/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/advice-for-life-situations-and-events/mental-health-support-if-you-are-gay-lesbian-bisexual-lgbta/>
<https://www.choicesupport.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/supported-loving/supported-loving-toolkit/lgbtq-social-groups>

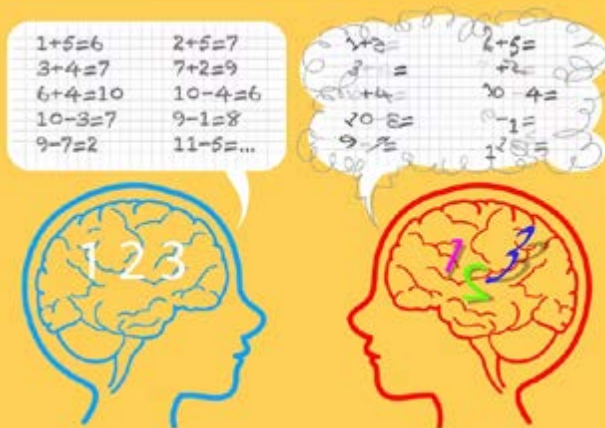
DYSCALCULIA

"Difficulty in performing arithmetical calculations resulting from damage to the brain" Oxford Dictionary

Dyscalculia is a specific and persistent difficulty in understanding numbers which can lead to a diverse range of difficulties with mathematics. It will be unexpected in relation to age, level of education and experience and occurs across all ages and abilities.

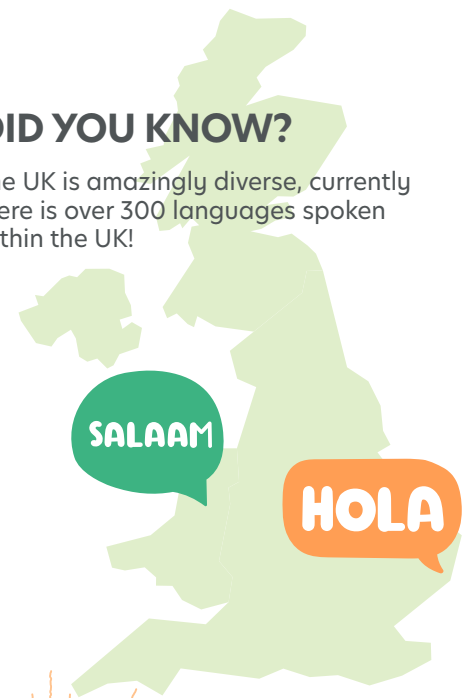
You can find out more by visiting the British Dyscalculia Association

Dyscalculia - British Dyslexia Association (bdadyslexia.org.uk)



DID YOU KNOW?

The UK is amazingly diverse, currently there is over 300 languages spoken within the UK!



WELLBEING - THINGS TO DO

If you fancy making the most of the hopefully warmer and lighter nights - find out what's going on regionally.

North East - <https://www.northeastfamilyfun.co.uk/2022/02/50-free-days-out-across-north-east.html>

North West - https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attractions-g4954674-Activities-zft11292-North_West_England_England.html

Midlands - <https://visitrevisit.co.uk/things-to-do/england/west-midlands/free>

Cornwall - <https://www.stayincornwall.co.uk/handbook/free-things-to-do-in-cornwall>

Surrey - <https://www.visitsurrey.com/ideas-and-inspiration/top-10-ideas/10-of-the-best-things-to-do-for-free>

London - <https://www.goodto.com/family/100-free-things-to-do-with-the-family-in-london-111427>

East Anglia - https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attractions-g186268-Activities-zft11292-East_Anglia_England.html

Kent - <https://kentattractions.co.uk/outing-ideas/free-outings/>



Senior Operating Department Practitioner **Ian Jones**

We support providing high standards of skilled care during each phase of a patient's perioperative care - this includes the anaesthetic, surgery, and recovery.

We work in the surgery team and manage the preparation of the operating theatres which includes day cases, cardiac including the Catheter Lab, and main theatres. We are also the link between the surgical team and other parts of the operating theatre and hospital. Although training is required this can be completed as an A degree apprenticeship to become an ODP. There are two routes into the profession, one is the conventional route through university and the other is an apprenticeship. Both routes require GCSEs and A levels, to qualify to get onto the course. You will be expected to do both academic work at the university and clinical placements within a hospital or a number of hospitals on a rotational basis. The course for both routes is three years, and you will come out with a qualification in Operating Department Practice and be able to register with the HCPC which is the regulatory body for the profession. Apprenticeships give you the chance to earn a living while gaining your qualification. You will need to have strong communication skills and be as comfortable discussing treatment plans with patients as you are with your professional peers. You'll also need to be safety-conscious and have excellent observational skills.

I have worked in this role across private and NHS hospitals for over 30 years since my training. "The commitment is massive; however, I find it very rewarding as you can see the difference you make to people's lives each day." I have worked in various hospitals but currently work at Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital which is the largest single-site specialist heart and chest hospital in the UK. Our catchment area spans Merseyside, Cheshire, North Wales, and the Isle of Man, and currently, we are increasingly receiving referrals from outside these areas for the highly specialised services we offer. I have the responsibility for preparing the environment and all of the necessary instruments and equipment in readiness for an anaesthetic, surgery, or recovery of patients and assisting the anaesthetic doctor to make the patient safe during general or local anaesthesia, scrubbing up assisting the surgeon during the operation, maintaining infection control practices and caring for the patient after the procedure. There is an element where I would manage the medications and patients' airway. Often the patient will have to be ventilated and this needs monitoring effectively. One of my other roles is scrubbing with the surgeon to provide the equipment for that procedure.

Have you ever wondered
WHAT NEXT?



Explore the role further here:

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals/roles-allied-health-professions/operating-department-practitioner>

ENGLISH

You may need to study Functional Skills English and are wondering what this involves. The good news is that you won't need to read a set of books or study Shakespeare again. Instead, FS English aims to use practical, real-life examples during the course.

You'll look at ways to improve your Reading, Writing and Speaking & Listening skills. This might include:

- Writing letters / emails
- Finding information in texts
- Participating in discussions

Writing is an essential job skill. It is important to be able to get your point across in a clear and concise way and avoid waffling on about an unrelated topic. Poor English skills can result in being afraid to try something in case you fail and not feeling confident in asking for something you want. It can also lead to you losing job opportunities.

Many employers state that communication skills, both verbal and written are essential skills that are needed in the workplace. It is also important to have a good CV - check if there are spelling errors and look at the layout.

Imagine you are creating a healthy eating poster for school children. You will need to think about:

- Who is your audience?
- The language and tone you will use - have you used any big words or abbreviations that children might not understand?
- Appearance and layout - what size font will you use? Will you include pictures? Large, colourful fonts and pictures might be more appealing to children

If you were to create the same poster for adults, you might change some of those answers to make the text more suitable for your audience.

Studying FS English can help:

- Improve your punctuation, spelling and grammar
- Gain better communication skills
- Feel more confident to make job applications and attend interviews.
- Improved English skills can ultimately help you progress in your education and your career.

If you wish to gain a better understanding of English so you can start applying this in real-life, please feel free to join any of our Functional Skills English online sessions or use the resources available on OneFile.

If there is anything that you are unsure of, please ask and remember there is no such thing as a stupid question!



COUNTY LINES

County Lines is where illegal drugs are transported from one area to another, often across police and local authority boundaries (although not exclusively), usually by children or vulnerable people who are coerced into it by gangs. (National Crimes Agency)

Find out more here

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-we-do/our-work/child-criminal-exploitation-and-county-lines/what-is-county-lines>

Remember OTJ!



THE RULE OF LAW

BRITISH VALUES

Fundamental British Values underpin what it is to be a citizen in a modern and diverse Great Britain valuing our community and celebrating diversity of the UK. These values are Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect and Tolerance, Individual Liberty.

Let's focus on Rule of Law - what does this mean?

"Appreciating that laws exist as an essential way of protecting the safety, freedom and rights of individuals. As laws protect everyone, each person has a responsibility to follow the rule of law" The skills agency

Watch the below video to explain further.

<https://youtu.be/DGpOGxIU-z8>

Remember OTJ!

