



ABINGDON

From Learning Support: Hettie Preiss-Chapman

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Dear Parents

Inclusivity in reading

As we all know, reading is at the heart of academic success, whether it be reading set texts in English or reading for pleasure, but sometimes it can be daunting to be faced with large bodies of text, especially if reading is not your thing, or indeed if you have dyslexia.

In the Learning Support department's work with neuro-diverse students, we have found that those with dyslexia have welcomed the *OpenDyslexic* font. It's as simple as installing the font-changing extension for Google Chrome and switching it on to change text into a much more dyslexia-friendly font, rendering websites more accessible, which in turn encourages research online.

For reading books, the *OpenDyslexic* font can also be used with Kindles, which may open up the wonderful world of literature for students and adults alike.

In addition, there is *Lexend*, which is a collection of dyslexia-friendly fonts that can be used on Google Documents and students love this.

It was David Border who first drew our attention to *OpenDyslexic*, and Jason Taylor has taken up the baton on the technical front, introducing *Lexend* too. Jason has kindly put together some brief instructions on how to use them:

- OpenDyslexic: parents can visit [this page](#) to install the Chrome browser extension, and then watch [this short video](#) to enable it.
- Lexend: parents can watch [this short video](#) to enable these fonts in Google Docs.

Boys can access these on their own devices via Firefly > Resources > School Life > Learning Support > Reading and Accessing texts.

Our thanks to our colleagues for their cross-departmental collaboration to foster an inclusive approach to literacy.

Yours sincerely

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