

5.5 Case study discussions of Sam, Joan and Daniel

SAM

Sam is a new pupil at the school, only recently having moved to the area with his family. His school records show that he had previously been diagnosed with dyslexia. Sam appears to be socially adept and has started to make new friends. He has many interests and hobbies, particularly in sports and PE. However initial concerns were raised by staff that Sam 'hides' his reading and writing difficulties, refusing support and avoiding reading and written work. He does not display any other outward difficult behaviour but rather appears embarrassed by his difficulties and shuns discussion around it.

1. What more do we need to know now?	
2. How might this be obtained? (through classroom observation, discussions with parents, assessment, etc.?)	
3. What immediate or short-term strategies might be employed?	
4. What longer-term strategies might be considered?	

JOAN

Joan has been diagnosed with dyslexia for two years. She enjoys school, is well-motivated and enthusiastically engages in her lessons. Although experiencing a range of difficulties with her reading and writing she accepts individual support readily from her teaching assistant. The relationship between Joan and the teaching assistant has been a positive one, however there are now a number of other pupils in the class who need additional teaching assistant support and at some point Joan needs to develop more independence in her learning. At what point can the teaching assistant be withdrawn and what other strategies of support can be put in place to ease Joan into more independent learning?

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DANIEL

Daniel has been assessed as having dyslexia and emotional and behavioural difficulties. Although really enjoying the social life at school he can easily become disengaged from his learning because of his behaviour. His family life has been difficult in the past and he can become unsettled at school during periods of turbulence at home. His mother also has dyslexia and other learning difficulties. Daniel has made substantial progress over time but there are now concerns that his behaviour is becoming more challenging.

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