

## Press release

**Dyslexia Awareness Week, 7 – 12 November 2016**

### **Dyslexia: did you know...?**

**Did you know that 1 in 10 children and adults in Scotland have dyslexia, meaning that they face each day with new challenges?**

**Did you know that dyslexia is not just about spelling, reading and writing – it can also cause difficulties with short-term memory, organisational and processing skills?**

**And did you know that children and adults with dyslexia have some of the best creative abilities, out of the box thinking and problem solving skills amongst our population?**

Dyslexia Awareness Week on 7 – 12 November aims to raise awareness and understanding of dyslexia through an exciting range of events taking place across Scotland. The programme, put together by Dyslexia Scotland and partners, aims to highlight sources of information, support and advice.

One of the highlights of the week will be a one-off matinee screening of US film 'Read me Differently' at the Centre for Contemporary Arts in Glasgow on Saturday 12 November. The film will be followed by a panel discussion with dyslexia experts and individuals with dyslexia.

Other events include a seminar for teachers on the online [Addressing Dyslexia Scotland Toolkit](#), an author event with [Hamish Adourian](#) and a workshop about the power of using [comic strips](#) to help with learning.

Dyslexia Scotland's network of 19 volunteer-led branches and Adult Networks will also be active in their local communities across Scotland with a range of meetings open to the public.

People can also show their support during Dyslexia Awareness Week by wearing one of 'Ellie's Blue Dyslexia Ribbons', 40,000 of which have been distributed across Scotland. Ellie, Dyslexia Scotland's first Young Person's Ambassador, launched this campaign in 2013 to help other young people feel comfortable and confident with dyslexia.

If people can't get a ribbon, they can attach a 'Twibbon' to their Facebook or Twitter account during the week. Details of how to do this will be on the homepage of Dyslexia Scotland's website.

For all of the latest information and resources about Dyslexia Awareness Week in Scotland, including free, downloadable presentations for schools, workplaces and the community, go to:

[www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk/dyslexia-awareness-week](http://www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk/dyslexia-awareness-week).

### **Notes to the Editor**

1. Dyslexia is a combination of abilities and difficulties that affect the learning processes in reading, spelling, writing, mathematics, memory or organisation. One in ten people in Scotland are thought to be dyslexic, with up to one in four of these thought to be severely dyslexic.
2. Dyslexia Scotland is the national voluntary organisation representing the needs and interests of people with dyslexia in Scotland. It provides advice and support for dyslexic children, parents and adults with dyslexia. Dyslexia Scotland is based in Stirling, with a network of 19 volunteer-led branches across Scotland.
3. Dyslexia Scotland's Helpline: 0344 800 8484  
Dyslexia Scotland's website: [www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk](http://www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk)

### **For further information:**

- Lena Gillies, National Development Officer, 01786 446650 or [lena@dyslexiascotland.org.uk](mailto:lena@dyslexiascotland.org.uk)
- Cathy Magee, Chief Executive, 01786 446650 or [cathy@dyslexiascotland.org.uk](mailto:cathy@dyslexiascotland.org.uk)