

# I think my child is Dyslexic...

## Does my child need a diagnosis to receive support in school?

A diagnosis can only be given by a trained dyslexia assessor. The specialist Teaching Team or an Educational Psychologist usually provide this during a full assessment

Voyage academies support 'needs, not diagnosis', which means that regardless of diagnosis, needs are supported in the most appropriate way

## What do schools do?

Voyage academies support the needs presented by our children. We follow the 'Graduated Approach', which means that we assess children, plan how to support them, carry out that targeted support and then review. This cycle may repeat many times and then could lead to seeking advice or referring to outside agencies, in addition to the core training that all Voyage academies receive.



## Other key information:

A diagnosis is a medical condition that stays with a child for life.

A diagnosis does not mean your child will get a 1:1

A diagnosis does not mean your child will have an EHCP

A diagnosis does not necessarily mean your child will be on the SEN register.

The academy will follow the steps below to gather evidence that different strategies have been tried and tested.

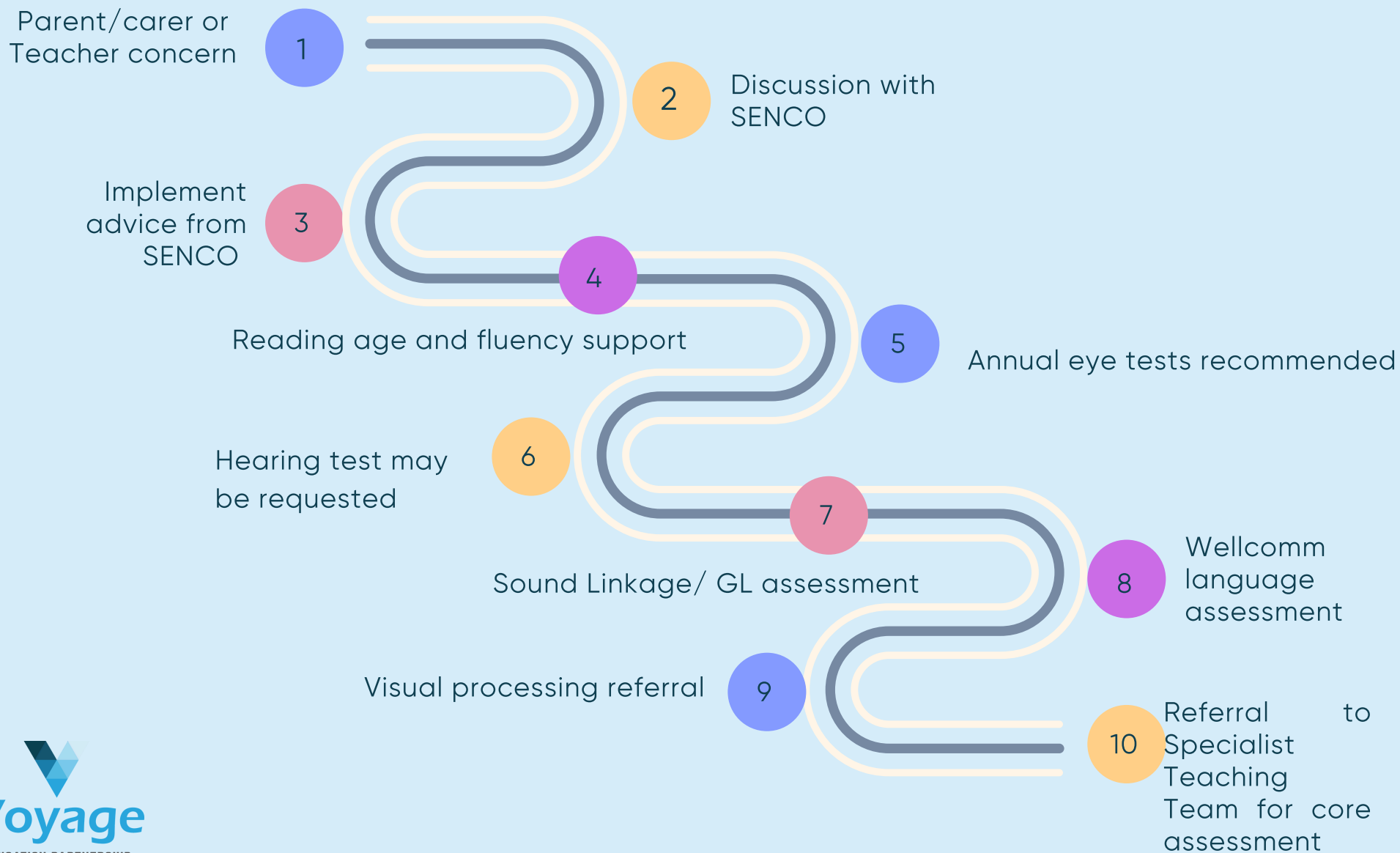
Referrals will only be made to the Specialist Teaching Team when strategies have been tried over time and all other aspects have been checked.

Please also note that a specialist teacher may not be provided if your child is making good progress from their baseline with strategies to support in place

The academy may not have access to a Specialist Teacher directly and will access dyslexia advice and training from the dyslexia outreach team.



# Pathway of Support for specific literacy difficulties - Dyslexia



- 1 Speak to the teacher and discuss your concerns. They can discuss with you what works at school and offer suggestions of things that might help at home.
- 2 The staff team will employ a range of dyslexia friendly strategies in the classroom to support your child. These will need to be in place for more than 6 weeks in order to see if your child benefits from them.
- 3 The school will continue to assess your child regularly including their reading age and fluency to ensure any support needed is in place
- 4 The school SENCO or class teacher may suggest exploring an up to date eye test
- 5 The school SENCO or class teacher may suggest exploring an up to date hearing test
- 6 School may complete more detailed assessments, using sound linkage or GL Dyslexia screener, Wellcomm,
- 7 The school SENCO may suggest exploring visual processing skills - making a referral to the clinic
- 8 Once the above steps are complete, the school SENCO may then suggest a referral to the Specialist Teaching Team for further advice and strategies for school to try.



Further information can be found here:

**LPCF (Lincolnshire Parent Carer Forum)** – offering free, ongoing signposting, information, and peer support for families. <https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/>

**The Local Offer** – a central point of information for services and support available across Lincolnshire for children and young people with SEND. <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/send-local-offer>

**Liase** – for specialist information, advice, and support around SEND Law and processes.  
<https://www.liaselincolnshire.org.uk/>

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/>

**Dyslexia Outreach contacts - Jane McWatt: [jane.mcwatt@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:jane.mcwatt@lincolnshire.gov.uk) Tel:07717 226448**

