

Postgraduate Diploma Specialist Assessment and Teaching for Maths-related Difficulties

Programme Specification



1. Programme title	Postgraduate Diploma Specialist Assessment and Teaching for Maths-Related Difficulties
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3a. Teaching institution 3b. Language of study	Dyslexia Action / Real Group Ltd English
4a. Valid intake dates 4b. Mode of study	Sept/Jan/April Distance Learning (Part-time study)
5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body	British Dyslexia Association (BDA), Dyslexia Guild, SpLD Assessment Standards Committee (SASC)
6. Apprenticeship Standard	n/a
7. Final qualification(s) available	Postgraduate Diploma Postgraduate Certificate
8. Year effective from	2021- 2022

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Prospective students will have:

- An honours degree or equivalent.
- Candidates will need a high level of competence in the use of English, equivalent to at least 6.5 (with a minimum of 6 in all components). See University Regulations for Postgraduate (masters) programmes.
<https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/university-regulations>
- Recent and relevant experience (minimum of two years in a teaching/teaching support role)
- GCSE Maths Grade C/4 or equivalent

Applicants who do not fulfil all the requirements above may be considered for 'special entry' if they can demonstrate other relevant academic and professional experience. Such applicants are advised to apply in the first instance and fully explain their experience in their application statement.

<http://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/academic-quality/handbook/>

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to enable students to develop critical thinking skills, reflective practice and disciplined enquiry to Master's level and provide students with a thorough theoretical grounding in the psychometric assessment of cognitive processes that underlie maths-related difficulties. It is designed to produce enlightened, reflective practitioners who have the specialist subject knowledge necessary to competently assess, plan and conduct intervention programmes for learners with maths-related difficulties using structured, cumulative multisensory teaching methods. The programme aims to develop students' ability to deal systematically with complex educational issues and to communicate their specialist knowledge to specialist and non-specialist audiences in a range of settings

11. Programme outcomes*

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:

1. A range of research perspectives and factors that can affect numeracy acquisition and cognitive processing.
2. The theoretical underpinnings of structured, sequential, cumulative, multisensory tuition for maths-related difficulties.
3. A range of teaching methods and resources for supporting mathematical development with reference to theories and research.
4. The principles and practice of the psychometric assessment process relating to maths performance.

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through:

- guided study utilising the online learning platform, webinars, online discussion forums, online tutor support
- critical analysis of current research
- the application of new theoretical and professional knowledge to their practice.

Assessment Methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by:

- written coursework comprising critical analysis, applied practice analysis and reflective analysis.

B. Skills

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

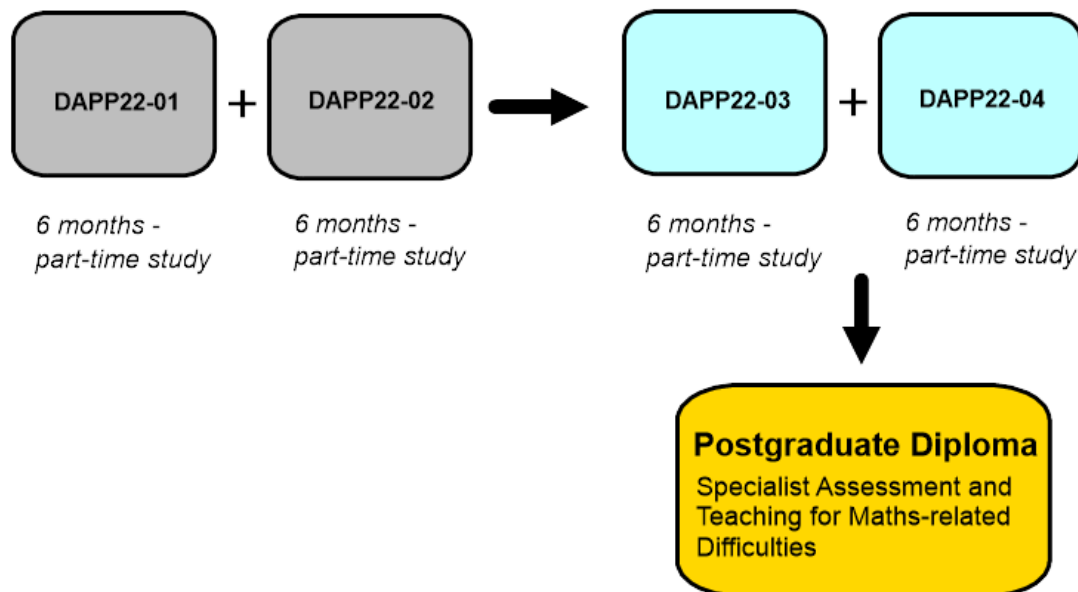
Teaching/learning methods

Students learn skills through:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Competently conduct an assessment process to analyse mathematical skills using a bespoke set of standardised and non-standardised methods. 2. Adaptively plan, prepare and deliver a teaching intervention that effectively addresses the individual study requirements of a learner with maths-related difficulties using structured, cumulative multisensory methods. 3. Perform a consultative role to support practitioners working in the field of maths teaching. 4. Critically reflect on observations and experiences of professional practice and make links with theories and research relevant to maths-related difficulties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assigned tasks within their applied educational setting and coaching. • self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems. • acting autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional level <p>Assessment Method</p> <p>Students' skills are assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coursework including applied practice analysis of the needs/problems of current work setting. • critique of current theoretical perspectives and critical self-reflection to enhance future practice.
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12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme



12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 7		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAPP22-01 Mathematical Understanding and Teaching Methods - Underpinning Theory (30 credits) • DAPP22-02 Maths Teaching and Dynamic Assessment (30 credits) • DAPP22-03 Psychometric Assessment of Maths-related Difficulties (30 credits) • DAPP22-04 Consulting on Maths-related Difficulties (30 credits) Or meet 30 credits related to these modules through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).	n/a	

12.3 Non-compensatable modules	
Module level	Module code
7	DAPP22-01
7	DAPP22-02
7	DAPP22-03
7	DAPP22-04

13. Information about assessment regulations
<p><i>This programme will run in line with general University Regulations:</i> <i>For Validated partners, please insert the link to the regulations you follow</i> https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/university-regulations</p>

14. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)
n/a

15. Future careers / progression

Future Careers: Completing the PGDip in Specialist Assessment and Teaching for Maths-related Difficulties is likely to enhance students' suitability for working with school, further education and higher education establishments and in other settings (such as juvenile offender, young offender and adult offender units) in teaching, assessment and advisory roles related to maths teaching and learning. Completion of this postgraduate diploma can lead to specialist maths assessor membership with a relevant professional body (e.g., BDA, Dyslexia Guild, Patoss).

Progression: Successful completion enables students to progress onto the *MEd in Professional Practice in Maths-related Difficulties*

16. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

- Support for online learning will be given as this programme is delivered via distance learning.
- Students entering the programme may have a range of recent academic experience, with some continuing students, and some with a gap between their last studies at higher education and/or master's level.
- Advice is available on all the modules to support any student with the study skills they need to undertake the programme including: critical analysis, critical writing and academic referencing.
- Students are also encouraged to think critically about the area of special educational needs relevant to their particular educational setting.
- Technical support for the virtual learning platform and any general technology support issues is provided by the Dyslexia Action/ Real Training IT department. Pastoral support is also provided by the tutor team who ensure each student's needs are treated according to their individual situation.

17. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	X161
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18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)	https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements
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19. Reference points

- Middlesex University regulations. These can be found at:
<https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/university-regulations>
- Level 7 (Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, 2008)
<https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/qualifications-and-credit-frameworks>
- QAA Relevant Subject Benchmark Statement(s)
<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>
- Master's Degree Characteristics Statement - QAA
<https://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/quality-code/supporting-resources>

20. Other information

Access to a computer with word processing and suitable internet connection is a requirement for online study.

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Curriculum map for Postgraduate Diploma Specialist Assessment and Teaching for Maths-related Difficulties

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

**NB: All programme learning outcomes are developed to Level 7.
Programme learning outcomes**

Knowledge and understanding of:	
A1	A range of research perspectives and factors that can affect numeracy acquisition and cognitive processing.
A2	The theoretical underpinnings of structured, sequential, cumulative, multisensory tuition for maths-related difficulties.
A3	A range of teaching methods and resources for supporting mathematical development with reference to theories and research.
A4	The principles and practice of the psychometric assessment process relating to maths performance.
Skills	
B1	Competently conduct an assessment process to analyse mathematical skills using a bespoke set of standardised and non-standardised methods.
B2	Adaptively plan, prepare and deliver a teaching intervention that effectively addresses the individual study requirements of a learner with maths-related difficulties using structured, cumulative multisensory methods.
B3	Perform a consultative role to support practitioners working in the field of maths teaching.
B4	Critically reflect on observations and experiences of professional practice and make links with theories and research relevant to maths-related difficulties.

	Programme outcomes							
A1	A2	A3	A4	B1	B2	B3	B4	
	Highest level achieved by all graduates							
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

Module Title	Module Code	A1	A2	A3	A4	B1	B2	B3	B4
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	by Level								
Mathematical Understanding and Teaching Methods - Underpinning Theory	DAPP22-01	*	*						
Maths Teaching and Dynamic Assessment	DAPP22-02		*	*		*	*		
Psychometric Assessment of Maths-related Difficulties	DAPP22-03	*		*	*			*	
Consulting on Maths-related Difficulties	DAPP22-04			*				*	*