Checklist of Early Warning Signs of Reading Difficulty and Dyslexia by Age

	Language Does the student have difficulty:	Reading Does the student have difficulty:	Writing Does the student have difficulty:	Emotional Does the student have difficulty:
Age 5-8	 Learning the alphabet Rhyming words Repeating what has been said Staying focused Learning to speak 	 Naming letters Matching letters to sounds Learning to read at expected age Remembering printed words Remembering sight words 	 Learning to write and copy at an age-appropriate level Writing letters in correct order Writing numbers in correct order Spelling correctly and consistently Writing neatly 	 Poor self-confidence Low self-esteem Poor social skills Making and keeping friends Easily frustrated
Age 9-13	 Rhyming words Pronouncing words correctly Speaking smoothly Understanding directions Understanding grammar/vocabulary 	 Reading at age-appropriate level Remembering sight words Learning and remembering new words 	 Understanding spelling rules Spelling words consistently correct Writing letters and numbers in the correct order Writing neatly Listening and taking notes 	 Fitting in with peers confidently Maintain positive social status Maintaining a positive attitude Interpreting non-verbal actions of others Maintaining an even temper
Age 14-18	 Speaking fluently Grasping a wide vocabulary Using the correct grammar and vocabulary Knowing the difference between words that look and sound familiar Getting to a point quickly 	 Reading at expected grade level and accuracy Reading aloud proficiently Recognizing sight words Reading confidently 	 Consistently spelling words accurately Fully developing ideas Preparing accurate, comprehensive outlines Editing written work Being logical and organized 	 Identifying social strengths and weaknesses Dealing with being teased Making and keeping friends Dealing with unexpected challenges Identifying what others are feeling