**Transcript: How do students with dyslexia learn to read and spell?**

**Language and Literacy team**

**Reading and Writing Disorders website**

Learning to read and spell involves learning how letters represent sounds in written words. Systematic synthetic phonics is helpful for all students but is essential for students struggling with reading.

- Phonics is the understanding that letters and letter combinations represent speech sounds.

- Systematic means that letters and sounds are taught in a planned order.

- Synthetic means that students are taught to blend sounds together to form words when reading, and to segment words into individual sounds when spelling

Students practice reading and spelling using decodable texts that have been written in a sequence to match their developing phonics skills.

For older students with dyslexia, systematic synthetic phonics continues to be an important part of reading instruction.

Students with dyslexia can successfully learn to read and spell but may need more teaching and practice than other students.