

Welcome to **Day three** of Elizabeth Wilkinson's  
**'Inspirational to me dyslexics guest blog**  
for Dyslexia Awareness Week 2020

**What is your Name?** Dr Neil Alexander-Passe

**How old are you?** 52

**Where in the world are you?** London, UK

**What is your occupation?** SENDCO in a secondary school, author of 13 books, researcher (Special Educational Needs and Disability Coordinator)

**What is the name of your business/employer/university?** Hasmorean High School MAT

**How old were you when you were diagnosed dyslexic?** 12

**What difference has finding out made?** It gave answers to why I was different to my parents and peers

**Which do you prefer: *I am dyslexic*, or *I have Dyslexia*?** I have Dyslexia

**What three words would you use to describe yourself?** innovative approachable novel

**What 3 words would your friends and family choose to describe you?** knowledgeable quirky highly-focussed

**What is your best/proudest YES! moment?** gaining my PhD for my 50th birthday, authoring book

**If you could have one gadget, piece of equipment or software for free - what would it be, and why?** really fast laptop, as my brain works so fast

**If you had the day off to do anything at all - what would you do?** visit an art gallery, lunch and tea by the river

**Who on the planet inspires you the most?** unsure. One of my team who is a SEND teacher, she is so caring about the students

**Did you like School?** 1 = not at all and 10 = loved it: 2



What did you like most about school? art

Who was your favourite teacher and why? Mr Campbell, he was my O'Level art teacher. He set me on the road to art college and believe in myself

If you could go back in time, what one piece of advice would you offer to your younger school aged self, and what age would that be? don't give up. there is a future, they just need to see your passion

Are you glad you went for your dyslexia assessment? yes

Is there anything you wish someone had told you before you went for your assessment? its fun, enjoy it

Do you have any advice for anyone who has just been diagnosed dyslexic? the assessment looks at what you can't do...you need help to find what your good at

If you could go back in time what message would you give to your 13-year-old self?

*“you will get through school, it won't be easy, but  
life post-school will be so great”*

Dr Neil Alexander-Passe 2020

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