



CAROLINA  
DAY SCHOOL

# Key Learning Center

*Serving the western North Carolina community as a premier resource for educators, students, and parents regarding language-based learning differences/dyslexia*

- Professional Development, Continuing Education, and Outreach
- Orton-Gillingham
- Multisensory Structured Language Education
- Evidence-Based Strategies for Teachers
- Internationally Accredited

## Fast Fact

As many as 1 in 5 struggle with language-based learning.



## MYTHS & TRUTHS ABOUT DYSLEXIA

**MYTH:** Dyslexia is a visual problem. Dyslexics see and write letters and words backwards. If a child does not reverse bs, ds, ps, and qs, he or she cannot be dyslexic.

**TRUTH:** Many children reverse their letters when learning to write. Reversing letters is NOT a sure sign of dyslexia; AND a child can be highly dyslexic and NOT reverse letters.

**MYTH:** If you are dyslexic, you are not smart.

**TRUTH:** To the contrary, some of the very brightest individuals struggle with learning to read and write. Dyslexia occurs at all levels of intelligence: average, above average, and highly gifted. Many gifted people at the top of their fields are dyslexic.

**MYTH:** There are no clues to dyslexia before a child enters school.

**TRUTH:** Clues to a possibility of dyslexia can be present before a child enters school. Children with dyslexia often have slightly delayed speech, and don't recognize rhyming words. There is often a family history of reading difficulties.

**MYTH:** Nothing can really be done about dyslexia.

**TRUTH:** Amazing things can be done with the right type of teaching. The understanding is scientific but the treatment is educational. Individuals with dyslexia must have an explicit, direct, phonics-based reading approach centered on the principles of multisensory teaching by a well-trained teacher.



**Key Learning Center (KLC) is the community outreach component of Key School at Carolina Day School. Key School serves bright children with language-based learning differences in grades one through eight.**

Key Learning Center at Carolina Day School offers both single day professional development and continuing education programs through a Saturday Seminar Series and a comprehensive Orton-Gillingham Multisensory Structured Language Education teacher training program in reading, spelling, and writing education. KLC's Orton-Gillingham teacher training course is research-based and contains explicit instruction that includes all five components required in EFFECTIVE research-based reading education programs:



1. Phonological Awareness
2. Phonics
3. Fluency
4. Vocabulary Instruction
5. Reading Comprehension

During the training, teachers work directly with students and learn how to administer a series of informal diagnostic assessments that are used to design instruction that is structured and systematic. The structure of language is studied and applied to teaching reading and written expression. Teachers learn how to implement a reading and writing program that is explicit, structured and multisensory.

It is ideal for all elementary education teachers, providing them with a wealth of knowledge on how reading skills are developed, how to determine children at risk for failure, how to design instruction in reading, spelling, and writing that follows a systematic approach and supplements current programs. For teachers who serve at risk populations the skills learned in the course are essential. Orton-Gillingham Multisensory Structured Language certification is offered through a comprehensive supervised teaching practicum.