



Report following Irlen® Screener Training

I would like to thank you again for the recent funding you provided me to complete my Irlen's Screener training. This will provide another strand to the assessment and intervention pathway we offer the young people within our inpatient OT services.

Irlen® Syndrome is a visual perceptual problem and is not detected by standard visual eye tests. Visual perception is the ability to interpret or give meaning to what is seen. Individuals who have Irlen® Syndrome may suffer from any of the following; slow reading speed, inefficient reading and poor reading comprehension. There may also be an inability to read for any length of time without looking away from the page or taking breaks, poor handwriting, strain or fatigue, difficulty with depth perception and/or impaired performance.

Irlen® Syndrome may also affect energy levels, attention span, concentration, motivation, productivity and classroom/work performance. Therefore, some individuals who have undiagnosed problems of Irlen® Syndrome may be underachievers who may have been told that they "should try harder". Other individuals may have been misdiagnosed with behavioural problems or as having ADD/ ADHD, or learning difficulties.

As part of the screening I can offer coloured overlays to young people that will either greatly reduce or completely remove these difficulties, resulting in the ability to read and complete work with greater ease than experienced before. The course was run over 2 days and provided comprehensive training in understanding and carrying out the screening assessment. I would certainly recommend this course to others wishing to complement their service ASC assessment and intervention pathway.