**How Microsoft Word can be used to reduce the effects of some symptoms associated with Dyslexia**

There are some conditions that sit within the umbrella of Dyslexia, such as Mears Irlen Syndrome, whose affects can be reduced by using some of the facilities available in Microsoft Word.

For some, the bright white of the page and the stark contrast of black print on a white background can cause a dyslexia sufferer to misread letters and words. The page colour can be changed from white to a colour of your choice by selecting –

* **Page Layout** Tab
* Find “**Page Color**” Icon
* Select drop down button at side of icon
* Select colour





Most people know that the spaces between lines can be altered by selecting the **Home** tab and then selecting the numerous options from the dropdown button by the paragraph Icon.

There is also the facility to adjust the space between each character of a word. This can be done at the start of a document or by highlighting text and then amending it. To alter the text right click the mouse and select **Font**. Select the Character Spacing tab. and select the required scale to space the characters wider.

If the scale is changed to 125% then the change to a word would look like –

Normal Spacing 125% Spacing

Spacing Spacing

If the spacing of a word is changed from normal to expanded then the word would look like –

 Normal Spacing 125% Spacing

 Spacing Spacing

Microsoft Word also has a magnifier which can be found in the bottom left-hand corner of the screen. To alter the magnification just move the slider to suit your vision.