



Specific Learning Difficulties

Specific learning difficulties (SpLD), affect one or more specific aspects of learning.

This encompasses a range of conditions such as a specific literacy difficulty (including dyslexia), a specific difficulty with mathematics (including dyscalculia) and a specific difficulty with movement and coordination (including dyspraxia) as identified in the SEND code of practice under the area of need Cognition and Learning.

The difficulties can occur alone or together.

Literacy difficulty including Dyslexia

This is a specific learning difficulty that can have an impact on **reading, writing and spelling**.

The signs are different in every person, but they may include difficulties with:

- understanding written information
- reading and writing
- spelling and/or handwriting
- writing letters in the incorrect order
- planning and organising tasks
- time perception.

Movement and coordination difficulty including Dyspraxia

Dyspraxia is also known as developmental co-ordination disorder (DCD).

It affects both **movement and coordination**. It can have an impact on balance, sports, and learning to drive.

The signs are different in every person but may include difficulties with:

- physical activities e.g., P.E or playground games
- navigating around inside spaces, including going up and down the stairs
- tying shoelaces and buttoning up clothes
- using cutlery
- sitting still
- writing, drawing and craft activities

Mathematics difficulty including Dyscalculia

This involves difficulty **understanding, learning, and performing maths and number-based operations.**

The signs are different in every person, but they may include difficulties with:

- understanding of number and estimation
- mental arithmetic skills
- remembering mathematical facts and procedures, even with extensive practice
- taking a very long time over calculations
- difficulty counting backwards
- telling whether answers are correct or nearly correct

Resources:

Literacy- See also Specific Literacy Difficulty Quick Guide

<https://youtu.be/11r7CFIK2sc?si=gEU2LNHPpgJB8KPk>

[Dyslexia - British Dyslexia Association \(bdadyslexia.org.uk\)](https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk)

[Dyslexia Reading Well, a Virtual Well of Reading Resources \(dyslexia-reading-well.com\)](https://www.dyslexia-reading-well.com)

[Dyslexia Style Guide 2023 \(bdadyslexia.org.uk\)](https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk)

Movement and coordination

<https://youtu.be/ssfbXEc3tKc?si=WTAoLmSHBAnFTN1T>

[Developmental co-ordination disorder \(dyspraxia\) in children - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

Mathematics

<https://youtu.be/YUIJyIMz134?si=uJhKBQPb4auR2A6A>