

Developmental Language Disorder

1 IN 14 people have Developmental Language Disorder (DLD), an invisible, lifelong disability.



DLD is the accepted term in English-speaking countries replacing specific language impairment, language disorder and language delay. DLD is a diagnosis given to a person who has difficulty talking and/or understanding language.



Diagnosis is made by a speech pathologist however a person with DLD may need support from other health professionals.



DLD affects an individual's life, regardless of their nationality and language. Speaking more than one language does not cause DLD.





DLD has a genetic and biological basis, but **there is not a single known cause.**DLD is not caused by how parents verbally interact with their children.

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Children with DLD are 4 times more likely to have math disabilities and 6 times more likely to have reading disabilities.



Co-occurring conditions can include learning difficulties, ADHD, dyslexia, and mental health issues.



People with DLD can succeed in life, with the right supports that meet their unique strengths and areas of need.



Learn more about DLD at TheDLDProject.com

Developmental Language Disorder

SIGNS OF DLD | People with DLD will often:



find it hard to understand words, follow instructions or answer questions



struggle to find the words to express ideas



have trouble saying words in the right order, engaging in conversations or telling a story



have difficulty paying attention



experience challenges with reading and writing



struggle to remember what they have been told

A DLD diagnosis can lead to an individual accessing supports and highlight their many strengths such as being:



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