

THE

*Dys*

*Inspire321*

SEN CONSULTANTS HERE TO HELP YOU!

OF SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

*Dyscalculia*



"Specific learning difficulties," also known as "specific learning disabilities," refer to a group of neurological conditions that affect a person's ability to gain and use certain academic skills. These difficulties are specific in that they primarily impact particular areas of learning, such as reading, writing, math, or language, while leaving other areas of intellectual functioning intact. These conditions are often diagnosed in childhood but can persist into adulthood.

We are going to explore one of these difficulties:

## DYSCALCULIA

Dyscalculia is a learning disorder that specifically affects a person's ability to understand and work with numbers and mathematical concepts. Individuals with dyscalculia may struggle with tasks like counting, recognising numbers, performing basic arithmetic operations, and grasping mathematical concepts like time and measurement. This condition can make math-related activities challenging.

**The specific symptoms of dyscalculia can vary from individual to individual. Some of the most common challenges experienced by individuals will differ in severity, but could include:**

- **Difficulty with Basic Number Concepts-** struggles with understanding numbers, recognising number symbols, and counting accurately.
- **Challenges in Arithmetic Operations-** difficulty performing basic math operations like addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.
- **Poor Number Fact Retrieval-** difficulty recalling basic math facts quickly, such as multiplication tables or addition/subtraction facts.
- **Difficulty with Mathematical Symbols and Terminology-** struggles with understanding and using mathematical symbols, formulas, and language.
- **Problems with Mathematical Reasoning-** difficulty solving word problems and understanding mathematical concepts in context.
- **Anxiety and Frustration with Math-** can impact their confidence and motivation to engage with math-related tasks.

### **I am worried my child will not achieve at school.**

It's important to note that dyscalculia is not related to intelligence; individuals with dyscalculia can excel in other areas unrelated to mathematics.

### **What can help my child?**

Early identification and targeted interventions, such as personalised math tutoring and accommodations in educational settings, can help individuals with dyscalculia develop strategies to overcome their challenges in math.

### **How do I get a diagnosis for my child?**

Be proactive, persistent and seek the guidance of healthcare professionals who specialise in specific learning difficulties like dyscalculia. Early diagnosis and intervention can make a significant difference in your child's progress and overall well-being. A diagnosis of dyscalculia typically involves a comprehensive assessment by a qualified educational psychologist or other healthcare professionals who specialise in specific learning difficulties.



**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Try to keep records of your child's developmental history, academic performance, and any relevant medical information. This can assist healthcare professionals in making an accurate diagnosis.

**For further advice and support contact us today.**