



SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

Parent Advice



Parenting a child with specific learning difficulties (SpLD) can be challenging, but with patience, understanding, and the right support, you can help your child thrive. Here is our Inspired advice, just for you.

**Educate Yourself:** Learn about your child's SpLD, whether it's dyslexia, dyscalculia, dyspraxia, dysgraphia or another condition. Understand the challenges your child faces and what strategies and accommodations can help them.



**Early Intervention:** Early diagnosis and intervention are crucial. If you suspect your child has a learning difficulty, seek a comprehensive evaluation by professionals experienced in assessing and supporting these issues. The sooner your child gets help, the better their long-term outcomes.

**Build a Support Team:** Collaborate with teachers, special education professionals (including your child's SENCo), and therapists who can provide guidance and support tailored to your child's needs. Communication and teamwork are key to your child's success.

**Advocate for Your Child:** Be your child's advocate in the educational system. Ensure they receive the appropriate accommodations and support in school, such as an Individualised Education Plan (IEP) or Pupil Profiles.

- **Create a Supportive Home Environment:**
  - *Encourage a growth mindset-* Teach your child that intelligence is not fixed, and with effort and practice, they can improve.
  - *Be patient and understanding-* Celebrate their successes, no matter how small, and provide emotional support during frustrating moments.
  - *Establish routines-* Consistency can help children with SpLDs feel more secure and organised.

**Teach Self-Advocacy:** As your child gets older, teach them to understand their learning difficulties, advocate for themselves, and use strategies that work best for them. This empowers them to take control of their own education.



**Explore Assistive Technologies:** Investigate assistive technologies and tools that can aid your child's learning. These may include text-to-speech software, audiobooks, or speech recognition tools.

**Seek Emotional Support:** Caring for a child with SpLDs can be emotionally taxing. Don't hesitate to seek support for yourself and your family, whether through support groups, counseling, or connecting with other parents in similar situations.

**Promote a Love for Learning:** Encourage a positive attitude towards learning by making it enjoyable. Explore their interests and provide opportunities for hands-on, interactive learning experiences outside of school.

**Monitor Progress:** Regularly assess your child's progress and make adjustments as needed. Keep open lines of communication with teachers and specialists to ensure your child is receiving the right support.

**Celebrate Successes:** Acknowledge and celebrate your child's achievements and milestones, no matter how small. Building their self-esteem and self-confidence is essential.



Remember that every child is unique, and what works for one may not work for another. Be flexible in your approach, and don't be discouraged by setbacks. With love, patience, and the right support, children with SpLDs can make significant progress and lead fulfilling lives.