

Developmental Language Disorder

DLD

CIT Language Team



What is DLD?

Developmental language disorder (DLD) is a life-long condition which can be diagnosed by a Speech and Language Therapist (SALT)

DLD used to be known as Specific Language Impairment (SLI)

There is no known single cause for DLD although it can run in families

DLD is more common than Autism, however it is not as widely known about

DLD affects approximately **7%** of **children** in the UK

DLD is hidden and affects approximately **2 children** in **every classroom** impacting on literacy, learning, friendships and emotional well-being

DLD can be missed, misdiagnosed or misinterpreted as poor behaviour, poor listening or inattention

Left unidentified and unsupported, DLD can reduce access to education, employment and social interaction

DLD affects every individual differently and there are a wide variety of ways in which language needs present and evolve over time

Children and young people (CYP) with DLD can have difficulties with:

- listening and attention
- memory
- processing language
- following instructions
- understanding questions
- understanding and using vocabulary
- expressing what they want to say
- social interaction
- using language to regulate their behaviour
- phonological awareness, reading and writing

CYP with DLD are more likely to experience anxiety and depression than their peers

More information about DLD can be found via the links below:

<https://radld.org/>

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5J2oZliKfB4VG0Zq_xabUA

<https://ican.org.uk/i-cans-talking-point/professionals/developmental-language-disorder/>

<https://www.dldandme.co.uk/>

<https://dldandme.org/>

<https://www.naplic.org.uk/dld/>

<https://www.engage-dld.com/>

<https://thedldproject.com/>

<https://sites.google.com/view/thisisdld/home>

<https://www.rcslt.org/speech-and-language-therapy/clinical-information/developmental-language-disorder/>

<https://www.livewellsouthwest.co.uk/childrens-services/speech-and-language>

<https://www.boystownhospital.org/knowledge-center/what-is-developmental-language-disorder>

<https://www.afasic.org.uk/about-talking/types-of-slcw/what-is-sli/>

