






WHAT IS ...

A LEARNING DISABILITY?





What is a Learning Disability?




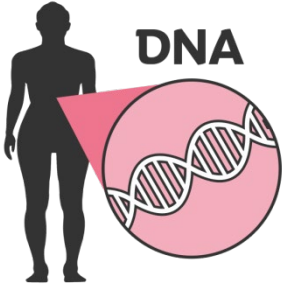

	<p>Learning disabilities are different in everyone.</p> <p>No two people are the same!</p>
	<p>A learning disability affects the way a person learns new things.</p>
	<p>A person with a learning disability might have some difficulty:</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding information
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Looking after themselves or living alone

	<p>They also may need help with activities such as:</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household tasks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with people
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing money
	<p>They may need support to learn new skills and talk to other people.</p>

	<p>Lots of people with learning disabilities can work, have relationships, live alone and get qualifications.</p>
	<p>Other people might need more support throughout their lives.</p>
	<p>A learning disability does NOT change who you are, what you like or who you are friends with!</p>

Why do people have a Learning Disability?



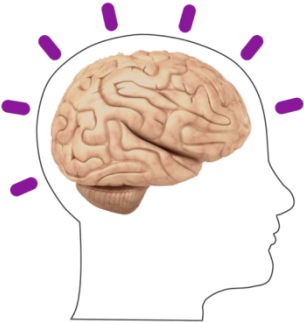
	<p>We do not always know why a person has a learning disability.</p>
	<p>A learning disability can be caused by illnesses, injuries, accidents and seizures in childhood.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before birth, things can happen to the central nervous system (brain) that can cause a learning disability.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the mother has an accident or illness while pregnant.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some health conditions may make you more likely to have a learning disability.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The baby can develop certain genes (genes are chemicals in our bodies that have information about us)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problems during birth that stop enough oxygen getting to the brain, has trauma to the head or is born too early.

Different types of Learning Disabilities

	<p>There are different types of learning disability which are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• mild,• moderate,• severe or profound.
	<p>It can be difficult to diagnose a mild learning disability as the person can get on well with others and will cope well.</p>
	<p>However, they may need some support.</p>
	<p>People with severe or profound and multiple learning disabilities will need more support with their mobility, personal care and communication.</p>
	<p>People with a moderate learning disability may also need support in these areas.</p>

What's the difference between Learning Disability and Learning Difficulty?

	<p>Learning disabilities are often confused with learning difficulties.</p>
	<p>There are many types of learning difficulty, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dyslexia• ADHD• Dyspraxia• Dyscalculia
	<p>A person can have one or a combination of these.</p>

Profound and multiple learning disability (PMLD)

	<p>Profound and multiple learning disabilities is when a person has a severe learning disability and other disabilities.</p>
	<p>These can affect their communication and ability to do things on their own.</p>
	<p>They might have problems seeing, hearing, moving and speaking.</p>
	<p>They may have complicated health and care needs because of these or other conditions.</p>



They may need support to help them with things such as eating and washing.



They can still be involved with decisions about themselves and do things that they enjoy!



Some people who struggle with talking may use other ways to communicate such as sign language, Makaton or pictures.



With the right support, people with learning disabilities can overcome things they find difficult and live the life they choose!

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