

# FINDING OUT MORE

**[www.dldandme.co.uk](http://www.dldandme.co.uk)**

*A website for children and teenagers to learn more about DLD and connect with other young people*

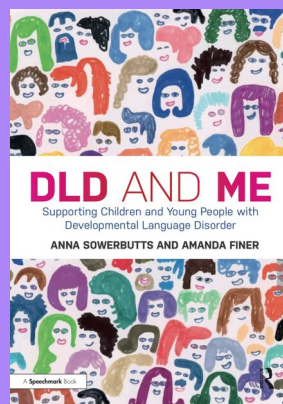
**[radld.org](http://radld.org)**

*Campaign to raise awareness of DLD*

There is also a support group for people with DLD and their parents/carers on Facebook: search for 'Developmental Language Disorder (formerly SLI) Support' to join.

Did you know that DLD is estimated to affect 7% of children and young people? That's 2 children in every class of 30.

Despite this, most people haven't heard of DLD. Help raise awareness and understanding of DLD by telling others about it.



[www.dldandme.co.uk](http://www.dldandme.co.uk)



# DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE DISORDER

Information leaflet for parents

[www.dldandme.co.uk](http://www.dldandme.co.uk)



## WHAT IS DLD?

DLD stands for Developmental Language Disorder. Having DLD means that you have significant, on-going difficulties understanding and/ or using spoken language, in all the languages you use.

There is no known cause of DLD which can make it hard to explain. DLD is not caused by emotional difficulties or limited exposure to language.

A person with DLD may also have other difficulties, such as, Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Dyslexia and/ or speech sound difficulties.

DLD is not caused by other medical conditions, such as hearing loss, physical impairment, autism, severe learning difficulties or brain injuries. However, these children and young people with these difficulties may also have a language disorder.

## SIGNS OF DLD

All children with DLD are different. Some children with DLD have difficulties with:

- expressing themselves verbally
- learning or remembering words
- remembering or understanding what has been said
- concentrating on spoken language
- reading and writing
- telling a story, e.g. what they've done at school
- understanding jokes and sarcasm
- friendships, confidence and academic learning

Language difficulties may also affect a child's behaviour: they may be quiet and anxious, or seem to 'act up' due to not understanding or being frustrated.



## SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD

- Get your child's attention before asking questions or giving instructions. Use simple language and repeat if necessary.
- Give your child plenty of time to process what you've said and to put their own ideas into words.
- People with DLD usually learn and understand better if spoken information is given alongside visual or practical methods. Use visuals and encourage them to do the same – provide a picture, photo and/ or use gestures to represent new words or concepts to support their understanding.
- Help them manage their emotions at home so they can transfer the skills to school. For example, have a place to calm down and help them talk through the emotion they are feeling.