

DLD Information Leaflet

What is DLD?

Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) is a common, hidden condition where people have difficulty with their communication – either understanding or using spoken language, for no obvious reason.

People with DLD may have difficulty understanding long instructions and complex words, remembering information, responding appropriately to questions, putting their ideas into words, and telling stories.

DLD is 7 times more common than autism. In the UK, approx. 7.5% of people have DLD – that's 2 children in every class of 30.

DLD is a neurodevelopmental condition that develops in childhood and is lifelong. Children do not grow out of DLD, they grow with it. With support from speech and language therapy and education, children with DLD can thrive.

You can help people with DLD by:

- speaking slowly
- giving them time to process and understand information, and formulate their sentences
- Use visual cues and gestures when you talk to people with DLD
- Repeat and rephrase what you say to help them understand.
- Use shorter sentences with simple, clear information.

If you would like more information about DLD, visit www.radld.org, or speak to your local Speech and Language Therapist

