WHAT IS DYSCALCULIA?

The word 'dyscalculia' comes from the Greek and literally means 'difficulty with numbers'.

**Definition:** Dyscalculia is a specific learning difference characterised by difficulties with the processing of numbers, mathematics, arithmetic and calculations. Around 60% of individuals with dyslexia may also have difficulties relating to dyscalculia.

The impact of the difficulties of dyscalculia can be eased by inclusive teaching, strategy development and the use of assistive technology.

**Difficulties and Strengths**

**Possible Difficulties**

- Counting
- Calculations and recalling number facts
- Distinguishing between numbers with zeros (for example 100 vs. 1000)
- Measuring (handling money, telling time)
- Direction and orientation (telling left and right apart, reading maps)

**Possible Strengths**

- Innovative thinkers
- Excellent trouble shooters
- Intuitive problem solving
- Creative in many different ways
- Lateral thinkers

* These will vary from individual to individual


**Useful Contacts**

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