



What is dyspraxia?

Dyspraxia is a form of developmental coordination disorder (DCD) affecting fine and/or gross motor coordination in children and adults. It may also affect speech.

A person with dyspraxia may:

- Have difficulty with handwriting
- Have difficulties with dressing and fastening
- Have difficulties using cutlery
- Have difficulties walking in a straight line
- Bump into people
- Have poor attention span & fidget
- Struggle to concentrate
- Become tired easily
- Become stressed and anxious easily
- Have difficulties kicking and catching
- Have difficulties understanding 'in', 'on' 'in front'
- Struggle with organisation
- Struggle to remember or follow instructions
- Struggle to explain/ answer a question
- Be immature in story telling
- Struggle with sudden changes
- Struggle to understand feelings of others
- Lacks self confidence/ low self esteem

Top Tips

- ✓ Encourage to use pen grips
- ✓ Scaffold tasks into short, achievable, chunked activities
- ✓ Provide visual timetable of lesson/ lesson recipe or sequence cards
- ✓ Use child's name and make eye contact whilst giving instructions
- ✓ Provide time to process information
- ✓ Use closed ended questions to check understanding
- ✓ Provide visual prompts/ images on power point
- ✓ Allow use of laptops and tablets
- ✓ Ensure homework is written in planner
- ✓ Give advance notice of any changes to routine
- ✓ Remind students of personal space
- ✓ Reduce social demands while learning
- ✓ Support students within group work
- ✓ Do not rush students to finish- show priorities of completion
- ✓ Understand they may complete less than other students but challenge appropriately
- ✓ Repeat new skills
- ✓ Acknowledge achievements- descriptive praise
- ✓ Give single instructions

Useful Websites

<http://dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk>

<https://www.goodschoolsguide.co.uk/special-educational-needs/dyspraxia/dyspraxia-aids>