

Specific Learning Disorders

What are the types Specific Learning Disorders (SLD)?

SLD with impairment in reading (previously known as dyslexia)

SLD with impairment in written expression (previously known as dysgraphia)

SLD with impairment in mathematics (previously known as dyscalculia)

How is SLD Diagnosed?

Diagnosis is made by a psychologist after the following criteria have been met:

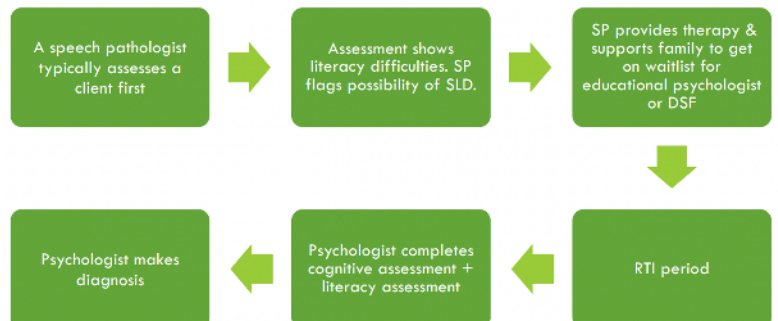
- The child has completed a 'Response To Intervention (RTI)' period (high quality, intensive intervention provided by a trained tutor, SP, or small group)
- Results of standardised testing across a number of domains (e.g reading accuracy, fluency, comprehension, spelling, written expression, etc) reveal difficulties that are not consistent with the intervention.
- Cognitive assessment within average range
- A review of developmental, medical, educational and family history reveals no other explanation for persistent difficulties

At Kid Speak, our experienced Speech Pathologists are here to guide you through this process! We can provide initial assessment, required intervention and determine if language difficulties or DLD are present.

What does a SLD look like?

Presentation can vary, with different profiles of strengths and weaknesses. Generally, children with a SLD experience:

- Difficulty with phonological processing, and phonological memory
- Difficulty with automatic recall of letter sounds/words (RAN)
- Spelling difficulties
- Difficulty with written conventions; punctuation, letter formation, spacing, capitalization etc.
- Slow, effortful reading with frequent hesitations (low reading fluency)
- Difficulty comprehending written information
- Difficulties may not be detected until late primary school/high school (demands-capacity)



How does SLD differ from DLD?

