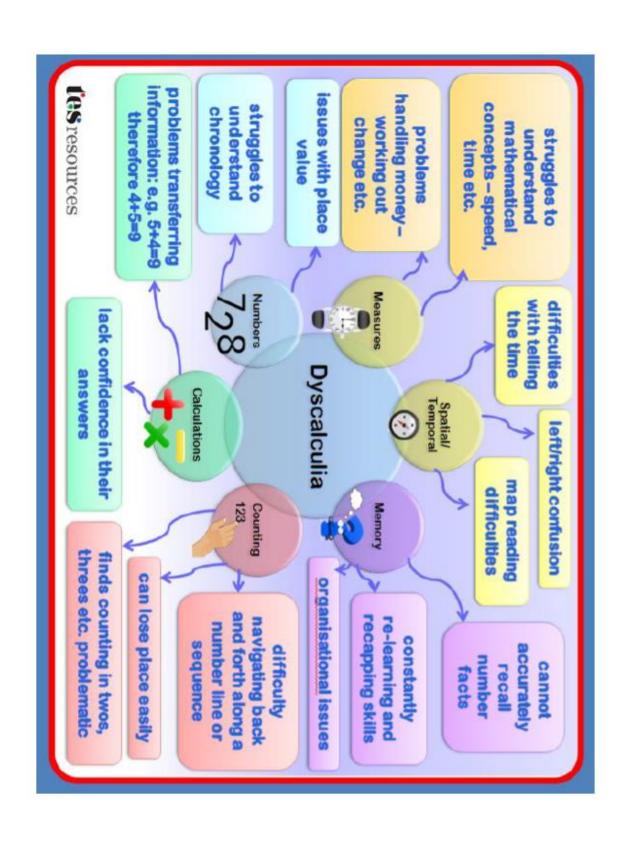
Maths Barriers

(Including Dyscalculia)





Dyscalculia

Definition

Dyscalculia means inability to calculate, and is the most widely used term for disabilities in arithmetic and mathematics.

Incidence

Research suggests that its prevalence is at least 6 percent of the school-aged population.

Symptoms

- May confuse mathematical symbols
- > Poor mental arithmetic skills
- Inability to grasp and remember mathematical concepts, rules, formulae, and sequences



Causes

- Poor cognitive skills including visual memory and logical thinking
- Lacks math skills and knowledge

Intervention

- > Improve cognitive skills
- > Teach math skills and knowledge

Dyscalculia is...

- A learning issue that makes it hard to understand concepts related to numbers and do tasks like add and subtract.
- A common condition. Some experts say dyscalculia is just as common as dyslexia.
- A common co-occurrence. Dyscalculis can exist on its own but is often found in kids with issues like dyslexia and ADHD.

Dycalculia is not...

- A sign of low intelligence. You can be very smart and have dyscalculia.
- The same thing as math anxiety. But it often co-occurs with this emotional issue, which involves self-cloubt and fear of failure.
- A lack of effort. Kids with dyscalculia need different kinds of interventions to make progress—not more of the same instruction

Telling time Working with money, like making change Identifying

Remembering basic math facts, like 2 + 4 = 6

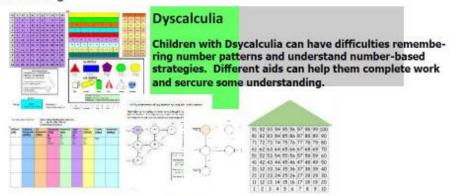
Kids with dyscalculia may have trouble with... symbols like + and – and using them correctly

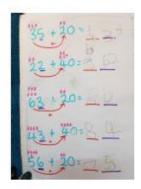
Understanding words related to math, like "greater than"

Calculating on paper or in their head Telling left from right Understanding how numbers are related to each other

Easy tips for students struggling in or with learning difficulties in Maths

- Have a hundred board starting with 1 at the bottom
- Offer times tables in lists instead of a grid
- Use manipulatives (a variety of) and visuals as much as possible (numicons, deans, tens/hundred boards, abacus etc)
- Don't mix operations within the same task
- Shorten the task/tasks so they do not seem overwhelming
- Be aware of what your focus is. Do they HAVE to write out the question or can they just write out the answer on the sheet
- Is language a barrier? Are you testing their English or Maths skills
- Give thinking time
- Check the children's work after 1 or 2 questions so you know they're on track
- Use colours and arrows to highlight the process
- · Focus on place value
- Have the learner verbalise their thinking to help YOU understand how their mind is working





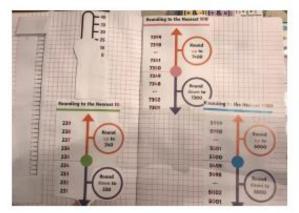
A maths notebook can be helpful for children to refer back to, like their own maths dictionary. They can use it to record examples of methods so they can see how THEY have done it in the past. You can include a hundred square, place value grid, number lines, times table grids in here as well.





Laminated tabs so students can easily find the concept they need







Grouped concepts student finds difficult to understand and implement and recall

Its important for students to contribute as much as possible to the note book

When a new concept is introduced, students can write the process and some examples themselves to help create connections with the strategies

