



Dyscalculia

Dyscalculia is a persistent difficulty in understanding arithmetic. Dyscalculia can occur across all ages and has no relation to a person's intelligence, abilities or educational opportunities. Dyscalculia is a very common co-occurring condition and this appears to be the rule rather than the exception. These co-occurring conditions include dyslexia, dyspraxia and ADHD. Some common signs of dyscalculia include:

- Difficulty understanding simple number concepts
- Problems learning and retaining number facts
- Difficulty counting and understanding the relationships between numbers
- Difficulty understanding the four operations: adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing
- Difficulty handling money or telling the time
- Problems with concepts such as speed

A person with dyscalculia doesn't have to show all of the above signs to have it, they may just show some of these signs. Dyscalculia is not the same as maths anxiety although people with dyscalculia are likely to have anxiety around mathematics. A person with dyscalculia will struggle to a greater extent and this will continue over time. Dyscalculia has been compared to dyslexia but for numbers rather than letters. However, unlike dyslexia very little is known about dyscalculia's prevalence or cause.

