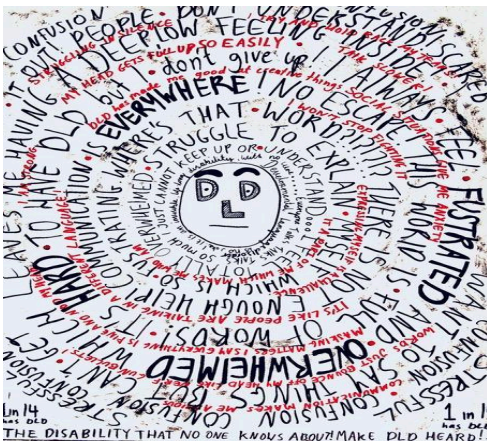# Developmental Language Disorder (DLD): information and resources for professionals



**By Siouxsie (Student, aged 17 with DLD)**

DLD is a life-long condition characterised by differences with understanding and/or using spoken language. DLD has no single known cause and is likely a result of a number of biological, genetic and environmental risk factors. DLD affects social interaction and can significantly impact on emotional and mental wellbeing. It is more prevalent than autism affecting approximately 2 pupils in every mainstream class of 30. It is very important to note that DLD affects every individual differently and there are a wide variety of ways in which language problems may present and evolve over time. DLD can be difficult to diagnose with some children and young people's good language skills masking those that are causing problems.

**What is DLD?**

- rcslt-dld-factsheet.pdf
- What is DLD? | DLD and Me

- DLD-Fact-Sheet-V3_original-2023.pdf
- DLD Fact Sheet for Educators - DLD and Me
- Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) | The DLD Project (Australian website)
- dld-presentation-for-website-guidance.pptx.pdf

Oxford University video: NAPLIC | The Language Problem: Building consensus on Developmental Language Disorder

Is it Autism or DLD (Developmental Language Disorder)?

**Websites:**

Developmental Language Disorder | DLD and Me

This is a website for children and teenagers to learn about DLD and to share how they've told others. It also has information for parents and teachers about supporting children and young people with DLD.

RADLD - Raising Awareness of Developmental Language Disorder - RADLD

This website helps people understand more about DLD, access resources and find out how to raise awareness.

Home | Engage with DLD

*Engage with Developmental Language Disorder* (E-DLD) connects people experiencing DLD to academic research. The aim is to create a world where DLD is fully understood by families and professionals. The organisation keeps families and individuals updated on:

- research findings
- current research projects
- DLD-related activities

E-DLD also host events, allowing members to meet and share experiences. E-DLD supports researchers and other professionals working to improve outcomes for people with DLD. Their work helps with research and policy decisions.

[NAPLIC | Developmental Language Disorder](#)

National Association of Professionals concerned with Language Impairment in Children (NAPLIC) is an established national association for all professionals concerned with children who have speech, language and communication needs (SLCN).

NAPLIC is a registered charity led by a volunteer committee, elected by membership and exists to promote and increase the awareness and understanding of children and young people with speech, language and communication needs, amongst all the professionals involved in meeting their needs. There is a whole section of the website devoted to DLD. Lots of information and resources.

**Videos about DLD:**

- A number of videos on a variety of topics: [Videos - RADLD](#)
- Short video on the impact of DLD: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ekEIcpZQgQo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ekEIcpZQgQo)
- Shows how DLD may be experienced by a primary age child: [Darcie's story - a video about Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) #2in30](#)
- Highlights how DLD changes over time: [Growing with DLD 2022](#)
- Made for Education: [Raising Awareness of Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) Day: #ThinkLanguage #ThinkDLD](#)
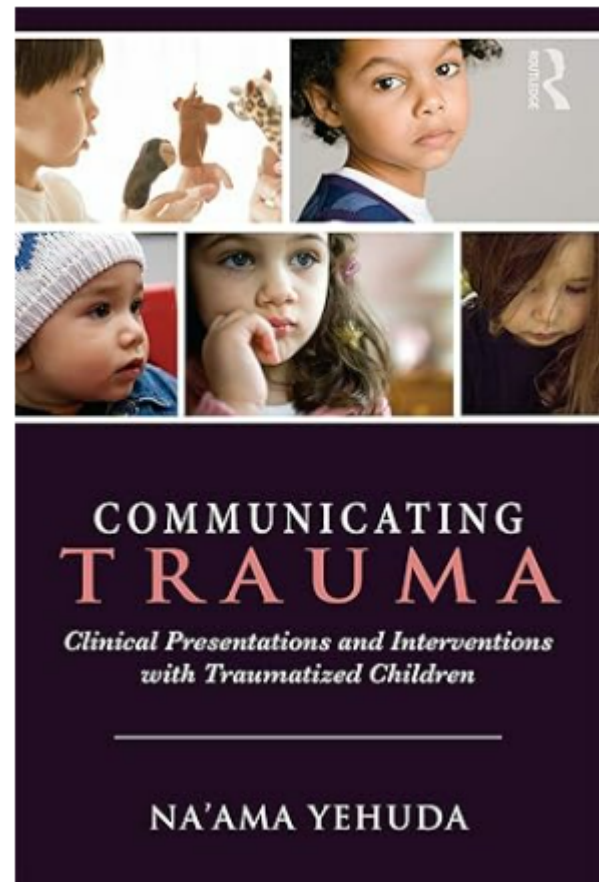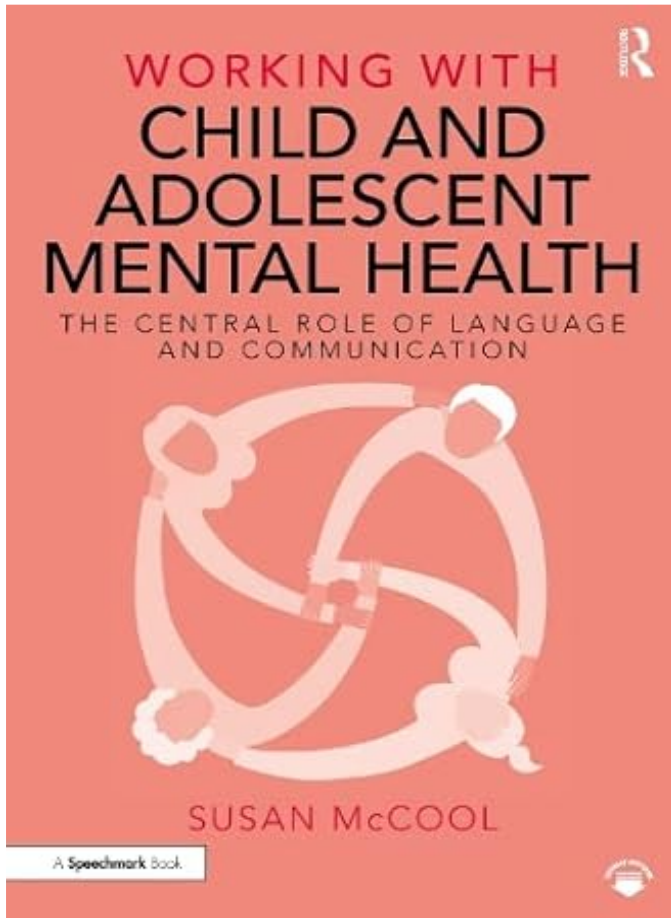- Misc: [Language around the world](#)

**Other**

- Summary and podcast on DLD and behaviour difficulties: [https://www.tes.com/news/how-misbehaviour-can-be-sign-language-disorder](https://www.tes.com/news/how-misbehaviour-can-be-sign-language-disorder)
- DLD in my own words (created by young people with DLD): [DLD in my own words](#)
- Video by young person diagnosed with DLD at 15yrs (good for understanding impact on education and the consequential

emotional impact): [Lily Farrington's Amazing Developmental Language Disorder Animation](#)

- DLD as an adult: [Life as an adult with Developmental Language Disorder (DLD)](#)
- [#DLDday 2022 Sophie talks about growing with Developmental Language Disorder](#)
- [DLD & Adulthood with Sophie Franks - The DLD Project](#)
- Why a diagnosis of DLD can help: [What families think about Developmental Language Disorder diagnosis](#)

**DLD and Mental Health:**

- [Why is language important for mental health?](#)
- [RCSLTCYPMHSA4Digital.pdf](#)
- [Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) & Mental Health - The DLD Project](#)
- [DLD - Developmental Language Disorder - ACAMH](#)

The authors of both the above books are Speech and Language Therapists.

**National Charites:**

- Home - Speech and Language UK: Changing young lives
- Home - Afasic

Afasic supports and provides information for families with children and young adults who have Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) with a focus on Developmental Language Disorder (DLD). *Speech and Language UK* also provides support to families.

**Resources**

- DLD Resources - The DLD Project
- NAPLIC | Developmental Language Disorder Resources
- NAPLIC | DLD resources for schools and families

See also National Charities and websites.

**Local**

- [Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) resources and downloads - Plymouth Online Directory](#)
- [Speech, language and communication - Children and Family Health Devon](#)
- [Schools and settings - Developmental language disorder](#)
- [Developmental Language Disorder - Support for schools and settings](#)
- [Supporting Children and Young People with Developmental Language Disorder - Education and Families](#)
- [Communication and interaction - Support for schools and settings](#)
- [The Communication and Interaction Team - Support for schools and settings](#)

**Training**

*Mind your words* is a free online course to support all those working with children and young people with mental health needs.

The aim of this course is to improve understanding of children and young people who have both mental health needs (or social emotional and mental health needs - SEMH) and Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN). To access this free resource visit: https://www.rcsltcpd.org.uk/

For further information visit: https://www.rcslt.org/learning/mind-your-words/

*The Box*. - This is also free online training from The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT). It's called *The Box* and is aimed at those working with young offenders. However it has general information on language and communication difficulties and also strategies for working with older young people.

https://www.rcslt.org/learning/the-box-training/

Free 'SLT for Schools' resource (Below taken from website – applicable not just to schools/teachers).

The Marjon SLT team have developed an excellent new resource which we are sharing across the UK with colleagues in education and SLT.

This new online course aims to provide teachers with the opportunity to gain an understanding of Speech, Language and Communication Needs in primary and secondary school-aged children. It was developed using funding from NHS England and is free to users.

'SLT for Schools'

*"Marjon's specialist team of speech and language therapy experts have created an online e-learning course that can upskill teachers to understand speech, language, and communication difficulties and their impact on learning.*

*Our SLT for Schools course is freely available to everyone, so whether you're a teacher or a student, you can improve your understanding of children with SLCN and speech and language development needs.*

*You can access this free, reusable online training directly from our website, set a schedule that fits your needs, and learn in your own time."*

The content has been designed for qualified teachers working with young people in alternative provision schools but is relevant to other educational settings and other school staff, such as teaching assistants and student teachers. The training includes specialist content covering social, emotional, mental health and communication.

The course can be found here on our website: https://www.marjon.ac.uk/courses/short-courses/ Links to an external site.

Users then 'sign up' to request unlimited access to all the materials.

*Language and Mind* Masters Module CPD course 4 days online or 3 days face to face:



https://www.marjon.ac.uk/courses/short-courses