



FAQ - Children with Special Needs (Child Psychology)

What do you mean by child with special needs?

Children with special needs have difficulties such as physical, emotional, behavioral, and learning that causes an individual to require additional or specialized services in education and overall development.

What are the types of children with special needs?

Learning Disabilities (LD), Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), Intellectual Disability.

1) Learning Disability (LD)

What is Learning Disability (LD)?

Learning disability is neurological based cognitive disorder that affects a person's ability to reading and writing, writing coherently, speech, listening capacity, solving mathematical problems, grammar, and/or organising other information. The most common LD are Dyslexia, Dysgraphia, Dyscalculia

What is the difference between having learning issues and having a learning disorder or disability?

Every individual's brain works differently. Some people may take a little longer to read than others. This refers to learning issue that can be resolved with a little practice. When a child falls behind their peers, struggling to understand information despite the attempts of remediation, this can be an indication of learning disability.

How do I know if my child has a learning disability or is just a "slow" learner?

Monitoring child's academic achievement from an early age can help to identify if a child is showing signs of LD. Further discussing with a professional can determine if there is a need for further evaluation and the type of evaluation. Evaluation is done by qualified and certified professionals. An evaluation by a doctor is also essential

Is there a cure for learning disability?

There is no complete cure for these disabilities, but treatment and intervention can be very effective in helping children grow up to be well-adjusted independent individuals.

Does a learning disability mean that my child is less intelligent?

A learning disability doesn't mean that the child is less intelligent, it just means that the child processes information differently compared to other children. Children with LD have equal potential to succeed and have their own unique sets of skills that need to be developed and used.

If my child diagnosed as LD, will they able to continue school?

Yes. They will be able to continue schooling. With proper remediation, intervention and monitoring academic performance the child can cope well with this difficulty.

If my child diagnosed as LD, will they get support from school?

Yes. With the proper certificates from doctors from government recognized centres or hospitals the child is entitled to get support in academic settings and examinations



Is there anything I can do to help my child with their learning disability?

As a parent the priority is to make sure that the child is receiving additional support and a right educational environment.

2) ADHD

What is ADHD and ADD?

It is a common neurodevelopmental disorder diagnosed in childhood that sometimes lasts in adulthood. Children with ADHD may struggle to pay attention, control impulsive behaviours, and can be hyperactive. In a form of ADHD, called ADD, there is no hyperactivity, but the child may show symptoms of inattention, distractibility, and poor working memory.

How is ADHD assessed?

ADHD is assessed through different scales/tests which are administered by qualified and certified professional psychologists. A physical examination by a doctor is also included. There could be other battery of tests that may be necessary

How is ADHD treated?

Treatment involves therapy and medication by professionals. Treatment is combination of psychological counselling, skills training, behavioural therapy, medication and education.

Can ADHD be cured?

There is no complete cure for these disabilities but treatment and intervention can be very effective.

If my child diagnosed as ADHD/ADD, then will he/she able to continue school?

Yes. He/she will be able to continue schooling. With proper remediation, intervention and monitoring academic performance the child can cope up with this difficulty.

3) Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD or Autism)

What is Autism?

Autism is a complex mental condition and lifelong mental disability that typically appears during early childhood. It impacts a person's social skills, relationships with other people, communication and self-regulation.

How is Autism treated?

Early recognition, and based on the nature of the problem, various types of therapies are available to help in enhancing skills- behavioural therapy, family therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, play therapy, art therapy, sensory integration therapy, etc. A combination of therapies along with medications may reduce autism symptoms and support development and learning.



Can Autism be cured?

There is no complete cure for these disabilities but treatment and intervention can be very effective.

4) Intellectual Disability

What is Intellectual Disability?

Intellectual Disability involves problems with general mental abilities that affects intellectual functioning and adaptive functioning. There are degrees of intellectual disabilities from mild to severe

How is Intellectual Disability assessed?

IQ and other testing indicate the presence of intellectual disability.

How is Intellectual Disability cured or treated?

While there is no cure for intellectual disability, early intervention, behavioral and family therapy, Physiotherapy, Occupational therapy, Speech therapy, Special Education may support development and learning and help the individual to function independently based on the degree of the severity of disability