



Red Flags for Dyscalculia

Primary School

Compared to their age-appropriate peers, the student may show the following difficulties over a prolonged period of time:

1. Persistent inability to memorize math facts: they seem not able to recall number facts from memory (e.g., number bonds, timetables, etc.)
2. Makes counting errors (e.g., skipping numbers, problems counting backwards) or uses fingers for counting (when peers no longer need to)
3. Difficulties relating a number with a quantity or estimating
4. Weak mental arithmetic or be slow when doing calculations
5. Problems with place value (putting numbers in incorrect columns when doing column addition)
6. Problems with understanding mathematical language (larger than/ smaller than) and symbols (+, -, :, X)

Secondary School

Compared to their age-appropriate peers, the student may show the following difficulties over a prolonged period of time:

1. Difficulties understanding graphs and charts
2. Persistent inability to memorize math facts: they cannot seem to recall number facts from memory (e.g., number bonds, timetables,)
3. Difficulties solving maths problems using alternative methods (e.g., $56 + 19 = (56+20)-1$)
4. Difficulties learning reasoning methods and multi-step calculation processes.
5. Difficulties calculating change (money)
6. Difficulties following directions (i.e., gets easily lost, cannot read a map) or simple recipes.