What is Dyscalculia?

According to the British Dyslexia Association, Developmental Dyscalculia (DD) is a specific learning disorder that is characterised by impairments in learning basic arithmetic facts, processing numerical magnitude and performing accurate and fluent calculations. This means that an affected pupil will struggle during maths lessons – in particular arithmetic. It is thought that about 25% of the population have some degree of dyscalculia.

Children with dyscalculia often have other developmental disorders such as dyslexia or ADHD. This is usually because of a poor working memory.

Children with dyscalculia often find it difficult to count backwards, need to resort to counting when trying to do arithmetic and have difficulty remembering number patterns despite lots of practice. Equally, they may struggle with estimation and becomes anxious and/or avoidant when challenged in maths lessons.

