

Myth Busting Quiz

Teachers Note: Down's syndrome is just one of many different types of learning disability. For 75 years Mencap have provided essential support to the people in the UK living with a learning disability. One of the ways we help is through challenging stereotypes, stigmas, calling out discrimination and campaigning so that people with a learning disability and their families can enjoy a better quality of life.

You can help by using these myth busting questions to inspire positive discussions with your students. For more information about visit www.mencap.org.uk/learning-disability-explained

Question

What is a learning disability?

- A. A learning disability only affects your school work
- B. A learning disability affects movement and physicality
- C. A learning disability is a reduced intellectual ability and difficulty with everyday activities

Answer: A learning disability is a reduced intellectual ability and difficulty with everyday activities – for example household tasks, socialising or managing money – which affects someone for their whole life.

Question

Is a learning disability the same as a learning difficulty?

Answer: A learning difficulty is a condition like ADHD & Dyslexia, and is different from a learning disability. People with a learning disability tend to take longer to learn and may need support to develop new skills, understand complicated information and interact with other people.

Question

Is a learning disability a mental health condition?

Answer: A learning disability is not a mental health condition. A mental health condition can start at any age and may not be permanent, people with a learning disability can also develop a mental health issue and are sometimes more likely to suffer from one.

Question

How many people in the UK have a learning disability?

Answer: 1.5 million people in the UK have a learning disability.

Question

What percentage of people with a learning disability experience bullying in their lifetime?

Answer: 56% of disabled people say that they have experienced hostility, aggression or violence from a stranger because of their condition or impairment. In 2013, there were 124,000 disability hate crimes, but only 1% resulted in prosecutions.

Question

Can most people with a learning disability work?

Answer: Most people with a learning disability can and want to work, as long as they are given the right support. Currently only 6% of adults with a learning disability known to their local authority in England are in paid work.

It's important to remember that with the right support most people with a learning disability can lead independent lives.

