



Speech & Hearing Month

Speak well. Hear well. Live well.

The Living Sky School Division has six speech-language pathologists (4.8 positions) who cover the 28 schools in our school division. This year, we are focusing on: **Developmental Language Disorder (DLD)** and why you should know about it!

Estimates suggest that about 7-10% of children at school entry have a language disorder of unknown cause. In general, this corresponds to about two children in every classroom. DLD has been defined as language problems that create obstacles to communication or learning in everyday life. To be considered a DLD these problems must be unlikely to resolve on their own and they must not be associated with a known biomedical condition (such as Autism).

“These children don’t understand what the teacher says, so they can’t follow the directions”. “A teacher might think a child has checked out, has behaviour problems, or doesn’t care about school. Really, what’s happening is that the child doesn’t understand what they’ve been asked to do. The child doesn’t know how to participate or can’t participate fast enough.” (Van Horne).

Please watch this video, which further explains DLD: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQ-s02HWLb0>

If you have any questions, or if you would like more information, please contact the SLP through your child’s school.

Your SLP Team:

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Resources: Norbury et al; Tomblin