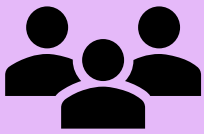




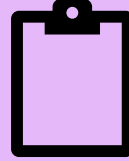
## E-DLD in numbers



357 members (296 parents of children, 61 individuals over 16). Average age: 8.6 years for children and 36 years for adults



70% are from the UK, 30% are from 23 other countries.



48% have completed the yearly survey. We offer a monthly £20 voucher prize draw for E-DLD members who complete it!



54 research studies have been advertised

## Research Overview: Lelen (2024)



### Emotional Health of Adults with Development Language Disorder: Examining the Role of Education Outcomes, Employment Status and Reasonable Adjustments

#### Key terms that are in this paper:

- **Emotional Health:** how someone feels in their daily life.
- **Reasonable Adjustments:** changes that a job can make to make disabilities easier to manage at work.

#### Aim of the paper:

Compared to adults with DLD, adults without DLD are more likely to have a university degree and find getting a job easier. Also, adults without DLD are more likely to have better emotional health than adults with DLD. For adults without DLD, having a degree and a job usually improves their emotional health. It is unclear how having a degree and a job affects adults with DLD's emotional health.

When adults with DLD are at work, they might have support from reasonable adjustments. It is unclear whether reasonable adjustments can make adults with DLD's emotional health better.

#### The aims of this study were to:

- See if the number of adults with DLD with a degree and with a job was different to adults without DLD.
- See if adults with DLD had similar or different emotional health to adults without DLD.
- See if having a degree and a job affects adults with DLD's and adults without DLD's emotional health.
- See if having reasonable adjustments at work or not affects adults with DLD's emotional health.

Keep reading on the next page!



## Research Overview: (continued)

### The study included:

- An online survey completed by 16 adults with DLD and 100 adults without DLD. The survey included measures on education, job status, reasonable adjustments, and emotional health.

### What was found:

- Adults without DLD had better emotional health than adults with DLD.
- Similar percentages of adults with DLD had a degree and a job to adults without DLD.
- Having a university degree and having a job did not affect adults with DLD's or adults without DLD's emotional health.
- Reasonable adjustments did not affect adults with DLD's emotional health.

### What does this mean?

Overall, having a degree or not and having a job or not do not explain why adults without DLD had better emotional health than adults with DLD.

It is unclear why having a degree did not affect emotional health. Future research could ask adults with and without DLD about their experiences at university to find out why this was. It might be that the reasonable adjustments adults with DLD currently have are not effective. This might make work stressful, so having a job is just as stressful as unemployment, which could be why having a job did not improve adults with DLD's emotional health. It is unclear why having a job did not affect adults without DLD's emotional health. Future research could compare adults with and without DLD's experiences at work.

### Where can I find this paper?

#### Citation:

Lelen, P. (2024). Emotional Health of Adults with Development Language Disorder: Examining the Role of Education Outcomes, Employment Status and Reasonable Adjustments [Unpublished undergraduate dissertation]. University of Bath.

## Open access publications



We regularly publish research summaries on our [website](#). Here's the most recent open access paper we have summarised:

### [Peer victimisation in adolescents with DLD](#)

This paper compared the peer victimisation experiences of young people with and without DLD at three different ages.

**Click the above link to read it on our website, there is an accompanying video too!**

## *In Conversation with...* *Ellie Barker*

### **Who are you?**

I am Ellie, I am a research assistant working on the E-DLD project. I am also doing a Psychology degree at the University of Bath. I work on the project, monitoring sign ups, emails and even putting together this newsletter!

### **How did you get involved in DLD research?**

I began working on the E-DLD project in October. I was interested in DLD after working with neurodivergent children and was excited to work with Dr St Clair and the E-DLD team on this project. I have learnt a lot about DLD and how to conduct research and am excited by the upcoming projects that I am working on.

### **Can you tell us about some current research?**

I am currently planning my dissertation project. I will be interviewing adults with DLD to discuss the adult DLD screening tool created by the E-DLD team. This will work to



build its validity and mean that it can hopefully be used to identify people with DLD with more confidence.

### **What is one thing you think needs to change?**

There needs to be more awareness of DLD. Before this work, I knew almost nothing about DLD. Studies have shown low awareness across many countries, so my experience is not uncommon. More public awareness of DLD would help drive the research into the disorder, which could mean more interventions for children and adults with DLD. DLD is a lesser-known neurodiversity despite being more common than autism and ADHD. This needs to change.

## **Did you miss our most recent event? Don't worry, we recorded it!**

In March, the E-DLD team was joined by SLT Stephen Parsons to discuss and answer questions about DLD. This event was targeted to helping the friends and family of people with DLD better understand the disorder and to give them the opportunity to ask any questions.

Thank you to everyone who came and for the brilliant questions!

Use this link:

<https://youtu.be/wrAo2ianQYk?si=FB899xAZxGI36PVp> to watch!

Don't forget to sign up to our next event, use the link on the first page of the newsletter to find out more!



## Follow us on X (Twitter) and Instagram - @Engage\_DLD

We keep you up to date with E-DLD news and our new research summaries. We aim to post weekly!



## We're on Facebook too!

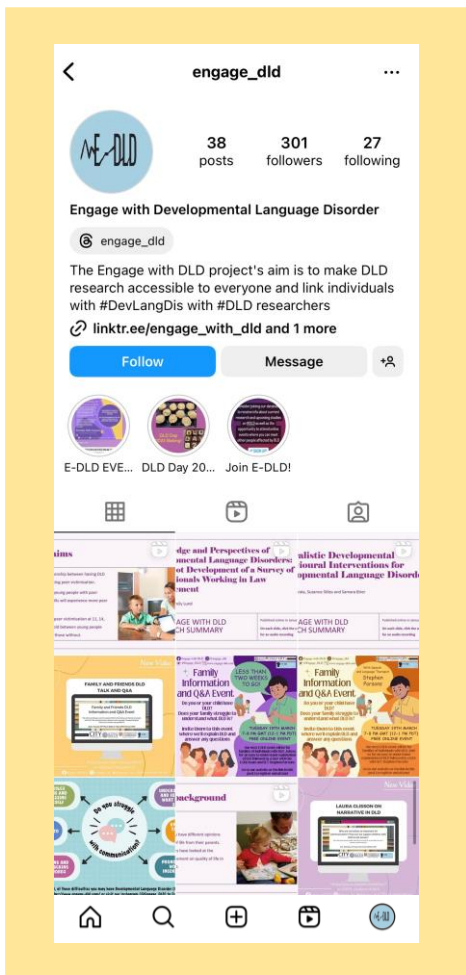
Find us at 'Engage with DLD' for another way to keep up to date with the project!

## Feel alone in supporting your child with DLD?

Consider joining the "Developmental Language Disorder (formerly SLI) Support" group on Facebook. This is a private group for people affected by a DLD diagnosis, including adults with DLD and parents like you!

## Have you heard of The DLD Project?

They have collected a load of evidence-based information and resources – check it out here: <https://thedldproject.com>



Follow us on Instagram and help us get to 500 followers! @Engage\_DLD

