

IF YOU HAVE AN AUTISTIC CHILD (PRACTICAL STEPS FOR FAMILIES)

- **Early Identification:** Seek developmental screening if concerns arise
- **Build a Support Team:** Pediatrician, psychologist/behavior therapist, speech & occupational therapists, special educator.
- **Home Strategies:** Consistent routines, clear communication (visual supports), positive reinforcement, sensory planning.
- **Education & Rights:** Request assessments, IEPs, reasonable accommodations at school; document communications with schools/authorities.
- **Self-Care and Peer Support:** Join parent support groups and ask for respite; family wellbeing matters.



PAKISTAN AUTISM HEALTH SCIENCES & RESEARCH FOUNDATION®

"A Company Registered under Section 42 of Companies Act 2017"



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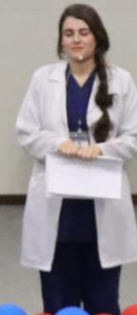
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COMMON CLASSROOM CHALLENGES

- Attention & Focus
- Sensory Processing
- Communication & Social Skills
- Academic Difficulties
- Emotional & Behavioral Regulation
- Executive Functioning Problems
- Social Misinterpretation
- Teacher's Stress

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COMMON MYTHS

- ✗ They need discipline.
- ✗ Parents are to blame.
- ✗ They can't learn.
- ✗ They don't have emotions
- ✗ Autistic children don't want friends
- ✗ Inclusive strategies slow down other students
- ✗ If they can focus on cartoons or video games, they can focus in class
- ✓ Truth: These children learn differently ... not less.



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INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY & SPECIFIC LEARNING DISORDERS

- **ID:** Significant limitations in intellectual and adaptive functioning, assess IQ + adaptive skills: person-centered planning needed.
- **Specific Learning Disorders:** Affect reading, writing, and math: it is classified as dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia. Targeted educational interventions, differentiated instruction, extra time, and assistive technology are used.



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Types of Learning Disabilities

Dyslexia

Affects reading and related language-based processing skills.



Dysgraphia

Affects a person's handwriting ability and fine motor skills.



Dyscalculia

Affects a person's ability to understand numbers and learn math facts.



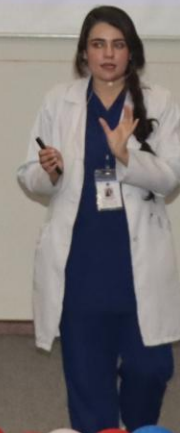
Non-Verbal Learning Disabilities

Affects interpreting nonverbal cues like facial expressions or body language and can affect friendships.



Oral / Written Language Disorder & Specific Reading Comprehension Deficit

Affects an individual's understanding of what they read or of spoken language.





DIFFERENT BRAINS, SAME CLASSROOM

"UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORTING NEURODIVERGENT LEARNERS"

BY
SAMANA KAZMI
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, IBT



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