

# INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY CHECKLIST

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Name of child or adolescent

Age

*Each item should be checked off using the following rating scale*

- 0 Not at all, never occurs, does not apply
- 1 Mild, sometimes observed, applies to some extent
- 2 Moderate, often observed, certainly applies
- 3 Severe, frequently observed, strongly applies

## Early developmental delay

Slow to learn to talk.....	0	1	2	3
Slow to reach physical milestones (walking, sitting, toileting) .....	0	1	2	3

## Needs more help with self-care and everyday living

Needs more help than usual with personal hygiene .....	0	1	2	3
Needs more adult guidance with personal organization .....	0	1	2	3
Needs more adult supervision with basic chores .....	0	1	2	3
Needs more adult supervision to ensure safety.....	0	1	2	3
Needs more adult supervision with managing money .....	0	1	2	3

## Social difficulties

Finds it difficult to make friends in own age group .....	0	1	2	3
Gets teased or bullied.....	0	1	2	3
Is socially naïve, innocent, too trusting.....	0	1	2	3
Is easily led or set up by others .....	0	1	2	3
Is uninhibited, speaks or behaves inappropriately .....	0	1	2	3
Thinks someone is a friend when they are only an acquaintance .....	0	1	2	3
Believes in Santa, tooth fairy and so on much later than peers .....	0	1	2	3

## Immature play and recreation

Plays with younger age group.....	0	1	2	3
Likes toys and activities suitable for younger age group.....	0	1	2	3
Gets frustrated and confused by age-appropriate toys or games.....	0	1	2	3
Slow to learn and follow the rules in organized games .....	0	1	2	3



## Classroom difficulties

Restless and inattentive in group activities .....	0	1	2	3
Depends on others for help .....	0	1	2	3
Needs a lot of teacher attention .....	0	1	2	3
Gets distressed/uncooperative when tasks assigned .....	0	1	2	3
Does not ask for help (not aware they are on wrong track) .....	0	1	2	3

## Cognitive and learning difficulties

IQ below 75.....	0	1	2	3
Makes very slow academic progress in comparison to peers.....	0	1	2	3
Needs learning broken into small stages .....	0	1	2	3
Needs extra repetition to master new learning .....	0	1	2	3
Needs concrete, hands-on learning experiences .....	0	1	2	3
Needs more explicit teaching than most .....	0	1	2	3
Reading comprehension is poor for age .....	0	1	2	3
Struggles with age appropriate math .....	0	1	2	3
Finds abstract concepts difficult .....	0	1	2	3
Drawing and bookwork is immature .....	0	1	2	3
Seems to be falling further and further behind as time goes by .....	0	1	2	3

### Additional difficulties or disorders

Speech and language less well developed than peers .....	0	1	2	3
Physically clumsy .....	0	1	2	3
Behavioural or mental health issues .....	0	1	2	3
Physical health problems.....	0	1	2	3

Positive characteristics and strengths (describe at least 3)

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## Important notes

This checklist can be used to help diagnose and assess Intellectual Disability. However, several conditions have similar characteristics and there may be a range of explanations for the observations made. Specialist assessment is necessary for a formal diagnosis.

- Supporting notes on Intellectual Disability (pages 20–5)
- Guides for discussions with colleagues, parents and students (pages 184–8)

