The Learning Profile of Pupils with Down’s syndrome
- difference not just delay.

- Pupils not just developmentally delayed – they have a specific learning profile with implications for differentiation
- Pupils with DS are GOOD VISUAL learners & POOR AUDITORY learners - learning from listening is VERY hard for them.
- Differentiation must be child-centred & VISUAL, as practical as possible & use familiar & meaningful language.
- Factors in learning profile have physical or/and cognitive implications.
- Factors also seen in other pupils with SEN.

Factors that Facilitate Learning

- Ability and desire to learn from peers - to interact, imitate & take their cue from them.
- Despite speech & language problems - usually keen communicators.
- Strong visual awareness & visual learning skills.
- Ability to learn & use sign, gesture & visual support.
- Ability to read & use the written word.
- Sense of humour

Factors that may inhibit learning
Not all children with DS will have all of the following factors.

- Delayed Motor skills - Fine & Gross
- Auditory and visual impairment
- Speech and Language delay
- Short Term Auditory Memory deficit
- Shorter concentration span
- Difficulties with consolidation & retention
- Generalisation, thinking & reasoning difficulties
- Sequential difficulties
- Avoidance tactics.

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