

Roadside Experiences of Parents of Children with DCD and/or ADHD

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Children with dyspraxia or DCD (Developmental Coordination Disorder) and ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) may face extra risks when crossing roads. Despite this, limited research has looked at what parents think about these risks. Therefore, the aim was to explore parents' views regarding the risks faced by their children with DCD and/or ADHD at the roadside.

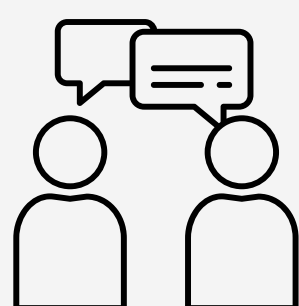
We talked to 14 parents of children aged 7 to 17 years to understand their views.

THE FOLLOWING THREE THEMES WERE FOUND:

1. Challenges experienced by children at the roadside: parents highlighted the importance of using designated crossing sites, such as traffic lights and zebra crossings.

2. Parents' concerns and influence on their children's road safety: parents expressed concerns about their children's ability to cross roads safely, this led to them being more protective and risk adverse.

3. Road safety education: parents found various ways to teach their children about road safety, such as using stories and practicing crossing the road together.



Even though some challenges faced by children with DCD and/or ADHD were the same, there were also some differences. Parents of children with DCD highlighted their children's motor abilities and the location of their bodies in relation to other objects, while parents of children with ADHD highlighted inattention and impulsivity.



Overall, children with DCD and/or ADHD may need different approaches to road safety education, that could involve parents, schools and local authorities working together.