

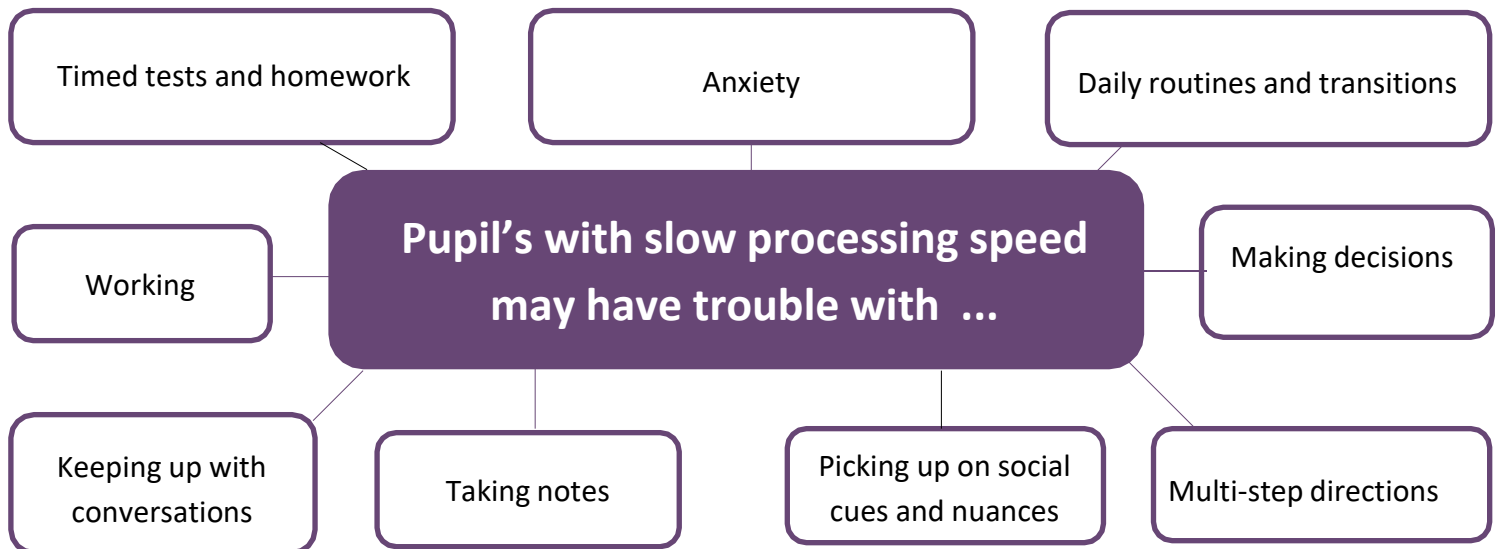
Slow Processing Speed Fact Sheet

Slow processing speed is ...

- ✓ **A slower than average pace** of taking in information and responding to it.
- ✓ **A common co-occurrence.** Slow processing speed can exist on its own but often co-occurs with issues like dyslexia and ADHD.
- ✓ A hot topic among researchers. Scientists are still learning how it's affected by differences in brain structure and chemistry.

Slow processing speed is not ...

- ✗ **A sign of low intelligence.** Pupils with slow processing speed are just as able as their peers.
- ✗ **The same thing as ADHD.** ADHD medication will not help unless pupils *also* have ADHD.
- ✗ **The same thing as a learning disability.** But some pupils with slow processing speed may be classified as having one in order to qualify for an IEP.



Ways to help with slow processing speed

Practice reading a clock. It also helps to use a timer to show how much time passes during a task. Start routines earlier to avoid rushing, which can add to anxiety.

Repeat directions, and make sure pupils understand them. Show samples of completed work. Provide class notes for pupils who struggle with taking notes.

Use accommodations, like shorter assignments and untimed tests, to help pupils show what they know.



Other Information ...

HELPFUL SUMMARY AND SHORT VIDEO CLIP: <https://www.understood.org/en/learning-thinking-differences/child-learning-disabilities/information-processing-issues/processing-speed-what-you-need-to-know>

FACT SHEET: https://assets.ctfassets.net/p0qf7j048i0q/2JGYbBf6H1f1F1X45455tL/90e4ecf1edc0cd605137e7c37a4f7673/Slow_Processing_Speed_Fact_Sheet_Understood.pdf

14 CLASSROOM STRATEGIES: <https://learningworksforkids.com/2018/11/classroom-strategies-for-students-with-slow-processing-speed/>