



A child who's 'a little different'

We all know children who are just 'a little different' – perhaps they're clumsy, have difficulty writing or tying shoelaces. Some may be prone to 'meltdowns', and struggle to fit in. This could be a sensory processing problem.

To interpret the world around us and to function well in everyday life we need to accurately process information from our environment through our senses.

For some children, their nervous system for some reason may be receiving, sorting and using information inaccurately from the environment, causing them to either under or over react to a sensation, or to actively seek or avoid a sensation.

This can lead to a lot of distress for the child, family and teachers, as coping with everyday experiences like a noisy classroom, the feel of a fabric, or moving in a coordinated way may present huge challenges. It can influence behaviour and interfere with learning, doing everyday activities or simply fitting in.

Often these behaviours are mistaken for the child being 'naughty' or poor parenting. To confuse matters more, no child is the same. Each has their own individual set of difficulties.



Therapy Professionals experienced Occupational Therapists may be able to help improve the lives of these children and those around them. Just contact us at 3775280 or visit www.therapyprofessionals.co.nz.