## **Neurodiversity 101:**

## A 'spiky profile'



## Aspects of neurodiversity

Neurodivergent traits may be associated with conditions such as:

- ADHD: attention, concentration, activity levels and impulsivity, creativity
- ASD: social understanding, interests and communication skills
- DCD: gross motor skills, fine motor skills, coordination and balance
- DLD: understanding and production of spoken language
- Dyscalculia: mathematics skills
- Dyslexia: reading and writing skills
- · ID: general intelligence
- Tic disorders: motor and vocal tics

At the same time individuals may have

## A 'spiky profile'

People who are neurodivergent often are said to have a 'spiky profile'. But what does that actually mean?

A person's strengths and challenges can be plotted on a type of chart called a radar chart. When neurodiverse people's strengths and challenges are plotted in this way, the chart can often looks 'spiky' (see below).

Radar charts are a good way to represent neurodiversity as they show strengths as well as challenges.

Here is an example of an individual's neurodivergent traits plotted on a radar chart and showing a 'spiky profile'. The inner circles represent a high level of challenge and the outer circle represents strengths

