



Centro Orizzonte was established in 2014 by the Social Cooperative Il Faro, with the aim of creating a centre of excellence for developmental disorders, dedicated to children, adolescents and their families.

It operates as a diagnostic, rehabilitative and educational centre, as well as a training and professional development centre.

Centro Orizzonte works within the local healthcare network, supporting and complementing the services provided by primary care paediatricians and UMEE services (Multidisciplinary Developmental Age Teams).

Since October 2025, Centro Orizzonte has obtained authorisation from the Municipality of Macerata as an Outpatient Rehabilitation Centre (CAR) and as a specialised facility for the diagnosis of Specific Learning Disorders (SLD).

## WHAT ARE THE MOST COMMON DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS?

Developmental disorders are a group of conditions that emerge during the early stages of development, often becoming evident within the first months of life. They involve impairments in attention, memory, language, problem-solving abilities or social interaction, and may significantly interfere with personal, social, academic or occupational functioning.

Early intervention is essential to ensure that every child is given the best possible opportunity for optimal development.

If you have concerns, or suspect that your child may have a neurodevelopmental disorder, please contact us: we offer tailored assessment, treatment and intervention programmes, with a family-centred approach.

### **We provide assessment and treatment services for the main neurodevelopmental disorders:**

- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- Specific Learning Disorders (SLD)
- Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Language Disorders and Language Delay
- Developmental Coordination Disorder / Dyspraxia
- Intellectual Disability and Genetic Syndromes
- Psychological, Emotional and Psychiatric Disorders
- Behavioural Disorders

# AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

Our Centro Orizzonte, is specialised in Autism Spectrum Disorder, providing support from diagnostic assessment to individualised intervention programmes.

Our work is grounded in the principles of Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA), a scientifically validated approach that, through structured and gradual intervention, supports the development of skills and the acquisition of increasing levels of autonomy and functional independence.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY DIAGNOSIS

Autism Spectrum Disorder typically manifests itself early in child development, usually within the first three years of life.

Early diagnosis, hopefully carried out between 18 and 24 months of age, is crucial to ensure the best possible developmental outcomes, as interventions are more effective in fostering communication, social and cognitive skills.

At Centro Orizzonte, we actively involve parents, caregivers, educators and professionals, ensuring that intervention strategies are consistent and effective across all living environments.

Through an integrated and collaborative approach, we design long-term developmental pathways that place the child and family at the centre, providing interventions that are effective, sustainable and respectful of each child's uniqueness.

## WHAT ARE THE WARNING SIGNS?

What to monitor between 18 and 24 months of age:

- Absence of intentional communicative gestures (e.g. pointing, waving goodbye)
- Absence of language development or language regression
- Limited or absent eye contact
- Lack of response to name
- Presence of repetitive and stereotyped behaviours (e.g. hand flapping, rocking, repeatedly spinning or moving objects)
- Limited or absent symbolic play (e.g. pretending to cook, feeding dolls, etc.)

### **Important clinical note:**

The persistent presence of one or more of these signs does not in itself constitute a diagnosis, but may represent a red flag warranting early neuropsychiatric assessment.

# OTHER NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS

At Centro Orizzonte, we provide care for other neurodevelopmental disorders, offering support from diagnostic assessment to specialised intervention.

## SPECIFIC LEARNING DISORDERS (SLD)

Specific Learning Disorders are neurodevelopmental conditions characterised by persistent difficulties in reading, writing and/or mathematics, unrelated to intelligence level or motivation. The brain processes information differently, making learning more challenging.

Early identification allows children to receive appropriate tools and support, promoting emotional well-being and positive development, while enhancing individual strengths through timely diagnosis, specialist intervention and close collaboration between school and family.

## LANGUAGE DISORDERS AND LANGUAGE DELAY

Early identification of a language disorder allows for more effective intervention, supporting children's linguistic, emotional and relational development and contributing to their overall well-being.

During early childhood, brain plasticity represents a crucial resource for strengthening communication skills.

Our speech therapy approach is individualised and targeted, tailored to the type and severity of the disorder, with the aim of maximising each child's potential.

## ADHD

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a condition characterised by a persistent pattern of inattention, hyperactivity and impulsivity. These symptoms may lead to significant difficulties and interfere with daily functioning.

Our multidisciplinary team provides comprehensive assessment and diagnostic evaluation for ADHD, developing individualised therapeutic pathways with shared strategies and goals, in close collaboration with the family.

## DEVELOPMENTAL COORDINATION DISORDER

At Centro Orizzonte, we take care of children with Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD / dyspraxia) or psychomotor developmental delays.

These difficulties may affect everyday activities such as tying shoelaces or participating in sports.

The rehabilitation pathway includes an initial assessment followed by a personalised intervention programme aimed at improving motor skills, posture and movement fluency, fostering autonomy, self-confidence and overall well-being.



## Contacts



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