

MJP fact sheet

> Famous people with a learning or intellectual disability

Would you consider one of these people for a job in your company?

Richard Branson



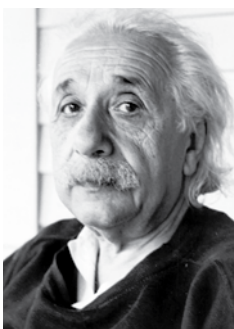
Founder and chairman of London-based Virgin Group, Branson did not breeze through school. In fact, school was something of a nightmare for him. His scores on standardised tests were dismal, pointing to a questionable future. He was embarrassed by his dyslexia and found his education increasingly difficult. He felt as though he had been written off, but his educators had failed to detect his true gifts. His ability to connect on a personal level and his intuitive sense of people were not detected until a frustrated Branson started a student newspaper with fellow student, Jonny Gems. The incredible success of the publication, the Student, was the start of a richly diverse and successful career. By believing in himself and focusing on his inner talents, despite the challenges posed by dyslexia, Branson successfully overcame his difficulties and has not looked back.

Jamie Oliver



This young, hip chef has made cooking cool for a whole new generation of television viewers. While dyslexia made reading a struggle for Oliver as a student, he made a point of finishing every cookbook from the well known French restaurant, Chez Panisse. Oliver's learning disability has not stood in the way of his achievements. He has been the host of several popular cooking programs including The Naked Chef and Oliver's Twist and has written seven cookbooks, including the bestselling Jamie's Dinners. His television series, Jamie's School Dinners, documents his quest to revamp the menu of a British elementary school through the introduction of healthier cooking methods and the introduction of organic foods

Albert Einstein



Einstein was unable to talk until he was four years old and could not read until he was nine. Teachers considered him to be mentally deficient, unsociable and a dreamer. He failed the entrance examination for college. He would become arguably the world's most famous physicist after developing the theory of relativity.