



Down's Syndrome Scotland

helping people realise their potential

Facts about Down's syndrome



1 Down's syndrome is caused by an extra copy of chromosome 21 inside some or all of the body's cells.



2 There are three types of Down's syndrome: Trisomy 21 (94%), Translocation (4%), and Mosaic (2%).



3 Approximately 700 babies a year are born with Down's syndrome in the UK.



4 The proportion of women having a termination after a prenatal diagnosis of Down's syndrome has decreased from 92% in 1989-2010 to 90% in 2011-2013 in the UK.



5 Children with Down's syndrome are likely to have delays in speech and language skills which will affect their communication, interactions and education.



6 It is estimated that about 41,700 people with Down's syndrome live in the UK.



7 The median life expectancy for people with Down's syndrome is 58 years.



8 Adults with Down's syndrome have an increased risk of developing Alzheimer's dementia after age 40.



9 People with Down's syndrome have the same feelings and moods as everyone else.



10 Many children with Down's syndrome attend mainstream school and many adults can live independently and hold down jobs.

