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Tajuk : Learning More About Learning Disabilities At Asia-Pacific Conference.

S10 NEWS

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Learn more about learning disabilities at Asia-Pacific Conference

KUCHING: The first Asia-Pacific Conference on Dyslexia and Other Learning Disabilities next month is an opportunity for education and health professionals as well as parents to gain knowledge about various learning disabilities.

Organised by the Dyslexia Association of Sarawak, the conference will be held at Borneo Convention Centre Kuching on June 24-27 with a focus on research linking classroom management.

"This is a golden opportunity

because we are holding the conference in Sarawak and bringing international experts here. Teachers, education and health professionals, parents and providers of private education are welcome to attend the conference.

"Together we can advocate for the learning needs of children with learning disabilities," the association's president Dr Ong Puay Hoon told reporters during a courtesy call on Welfare, Women and Family Development Minister Datuk Fatimah Abdullah yesterday.

Dr Ong said the conference would

look at all types of learning disabilities, including dyslexia, autism and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

It will cover the themes of health and education policies; screening, assessment and diagnosis; remedial and intervention; social-emotional dimensions and creativity; ICT and technological innovations; and advocacy.

Speakers include award-winning international author and educational psychologist Dr Gavin Reid, leading international researcher on dyslexia

Prof Angela Fawcett, Prof Dr Janette K. Klinger from the University of Colorado, Michelle-Lynn Yap from Dyslexia Association of Singapore and Katsu Training and Development founder Serena Teo.

About 400 participants are expected to attend the conference, which aims to draw attention to specific learning disabilities, promote research work on these disabilities and bring together experts on a common platform to discuss these disabilities and their associated issues.

Fatimah said parents and teachers should attend the conference, particularly those with children who were dyslexic or had other learning difficulties.

"Dyslexia is a learning disability that affects 10%-15% of children in school, so this is a good opportunity for parents and teachers to learn from the experts on diagnosis and intervention measures," she said.

For more information or to register, go to www.dyslexia-swk.com or email 2013apcold@gmail.com.