

# Coronavirus and people with learning disabilities

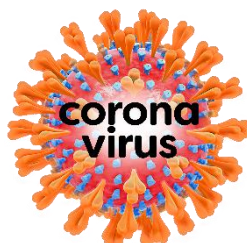
## What's happening for people and their families in January 2021?



We are university researchers. Researchers ask people questions to find out new information.



We want to ask questions about coronavirus and people with learning disabilities.



The coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic has meant a lot of changes for everybody.



We talked to some people with learning disabilities. We talked to some family carers.



We talked to people in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England.



We wanted to make sure we were asking questions that were important to people and families.



We asked them about what the coronavirus pandemic has been like for them.



We talked to them in January 2021.



This is what they told us about what is happening now.

### **Changes in support**



People with learning disabilities are getting less support because of coronavirus.



Day centres have been closed.



People with learning disabilities are getting less visits from people who normally help them, like social workers and learning disability nurses.



Some support is happening on the phone or on the internet.



Some people with learning disabilities are still paying for support that they are not getting at the moment.



Lots of people with learning disabilities feel more worried and lonely. People also feel less confident than usual. This is because of the lockdown restrictions and the changes in their support.



People with learning disabilities and their families have not been told what will happen to their support in the future.



They feel worried about whether their support will go back to normal.

## Health



Some people with learning disabilities have been feeling more sad and worried than usual.

People are finding it harder to cope the longer coronavirus goes on.



People with learning disabilities are asking for more help from support organisations.



People with learning disabilities have been going out less because of the cold weather.

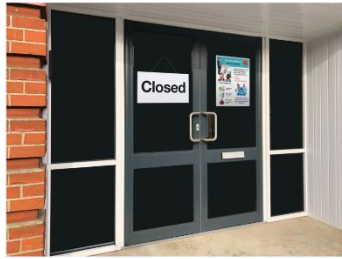


People are feeling lonelier because they can't meet their friends.



People feel worried about when life will go back to normal.

People with learning disabilities are also worried about their physical health.



Some medical appointments have been cancelled.



Lots of health care is happening on the phone and online.



Some people need to see a doctor or nurse in real life to get good health care.



Some people with learning disabilities don't have the equipment that they need at home, like walkers and standing frames. They normally use this equipment at the day centre but it is closed. Families are worried that this is making their relative's health worse.

## Coronavirus vaccinations



People with learning disabilities are worried about when they will receive the vaccination.

Family carers are also worried about when they will receive the vaccination.

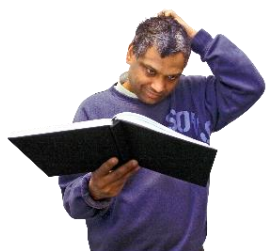


People with learning disabilities are worried about attending busy vaccination centres.



There has not been a lot of information on vaccinations for people with learning disabilities. Information has been confusing.

## Information about coronavirus



People with learning disabilities feel that the information about coronavirus rules and restrictions is confusing.



Family carers want clear information on what will happen if their relative has to go into hospital.



People need Easy Read information.

### **Using technology**



Lots of support is happening on the phone and on the internet.



Some people with learning disabilities don't have a phone or the internet.





These people are feeling more lonely than ever.



Some people can use a phone or the internet.



These people are happy that they can talk to the people they love more.



Some people with learning disabilities have enjoyed making new friends online.



Organisations who support people with learning disabilities have been running more social events online.



Family carers find it helpful speaking to others on the internet. Family carers are using the internet to get advice and information.

### **What will we do next?**



We have been speaking to people with learning disabilities and families about the coronavirus pandemic.



We are writing up reports about what people have told us. We will share this information on the internet.



You can find out more about the study by looking at this website:

[www.covid19learningdisabilities.co.uk](http://www.covid19learningdisabilities.co.uk)