

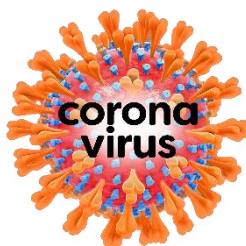
Coronavirus and people with learning disabilities

What's happening for people and their families in October 2020?



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

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



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 wanted to make sure we were asking questions that were important to them.

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



We talked to them in October 2020.



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



Lots of people with learning disabilities and their family carers feel like they have been forgotten about.

Changes in their support



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



People with learning disabilities cannot see people who normally help them, like social workers and learning disability nurses.



Day centres have been closed.

Closed



Lots of people with learning disabilities feel more sad, worried and lonely. This is because of the changes in their support.



Some people with learning disabilities have had to move into residential care homes.

This is because they need more help.

Worries about health



Some people with learning disabilities are worried about catching coronavirus.



They have been staying inside to keep safe.



Some people with learning disabilities have put on weight because they are not going out as much.



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



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.



Family carers are worried about their relative having to go in to hospital. Coronavirus rules can stop families visiting people in hospital.



Telling people what you think about your care is important.

Some people are not being asked what they think about their care.

This is very worrying.

Seeing families



Some people live away from their families.

Coronavirus has meant that families have not been able to visit relatives.



Not seeing each other is really hard.

Better information



People want to know what do to follow the rules and stay safe.



People need Easy Read information.



People want information about walk-in coronavirus testing centres.



People want information about what happens during a coronavirus test.

Problems 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 not getting the support they need or speaking to people they love.



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 are getting more support now than before the coronavirus pandemic.

This is because they can get support on their phone or on the internet.

How family carers feel



There is less support for people with learning disabilities.



Family carers are doing more.



Lots of family carers are feeling tired, sad and worried because of this.



It can be hard to get on with people we live with. It can be harder because of the coronavirus pandemic.

What will we do next?



We are going to do a big study to ask people with a learning disability and families about the coronavirus pandemic.



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

www.covid19learningdisabilities.co.uk