

Notification/ Alert

- Check if the patient has an Alert on Careflow
- Always ask the person if they have a Hospital Passport
- Identify patients communication needs
- Assess if patient is in pain (refer to Hospital communication booklet)

Resources Available

A Learning Disability Resource folder will be found on each ward, this includes:

- Emergency Department, Admission & Elective pathways
- Hospital Passport
- Learning Disability Good Practice Care Pathway
- Carer Support Plan
- Hospital Communication Booklet
- Information to take home - Easy Read
- Community Learning Disability Team contact information



Referral

You can refer to the Learning Disability & Autism Team directly via Careflow Connect at any time

Referrals will be responded to within the hours of:
Monday – Friday
09:00 – 17:00

Contact Details

The Learning Disability & Autism Team

01708 435000 - Ext 5719

Bhrut.learningdisabilitiesteam@nhs.net



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Barking, Havering and
Redbridge University Hospitals
NHS Trust



LEARNING DISABILITY

Guide for Staff

 www.bhrhospitals.nhs.uk
 @BHR_hospitals
 Barking, Havering and Redbridge
University Hospitals NHS Trust

TAKING
PRIDE
IN OUR
CARE

What is a Learning Disability?

- A significantly reduced ability to understand new or complex information to learn new skills (Impaired intelligence)
- A reduced ability to cope independently (Impaired social function)
- Which has started before adulthood and has a lasting effect on a person's development

Valuing People, DH 2001

What a Learning Disability is not

A sole diagnosis of:

- Dyslexia
- Educational difficulties
- Mental Health
- Autism

What is Autism?

- Autism is a lifelong developmental disability that affects the way people communicate and relate to other people
- People with Autism may also have difficulty with making sense of the world
- They may or may not have an additional learning disability

Common Health Needs



Communication Needs

- Talk to the person directly
- Do not just talk to the family or carer
- Give plenty of time for the person to think about and respond to a question
- Check that the person has understood
- Use simple language, short sentences and avoid jargon
- Use natural gestures
- Use pictures or photographs to help explain things
- Create a calm environment and minimise background noise

Reasonable Adjustments

Reasonable Adjustments are not just about access to buildings, it's about how you treat people.

Small changes can make a ***big*** difference

(MENCAP, 2014)

- Find a quiet place to wait
- First/ last appointment of the day
- Double appointment times
- Find the best way to communicate
- Identify any sensory needs
- Involve family and carers
- Check electronic learning disability alert
- Read the patient's Hospital Passport
- Use Hospital Communication Book
- See the Person not the disability

