



# Intellectual disabilities Learning disabilities



NHS

Mersey Care  
NHS Foundation Trust

Community and Mental Health Services

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## Reports

[LeDeR annual report indicates ongoing concerns over deaths](#) Findings published in the Learning Disabilities Mortality Review (LeDeR) Programme's 2018 annual report indicate ongoing concerns about the premature deaths of people with learning disabilities. This year's report details that policies relating to the care and support of people with learning disabilities still require strengthening. The [full report](#) and an [easy read version](#) are available.

[Children with learning disabilities or autism living in mental health hospitals](#) The Children's Commissioner for England, has published a new report, '[Far less than they deserve: Children with learning disabilities or autism living in mental health hospitals](#)'. The report shows how too many children are being admitted to secure hospitals unnecessarily – in some cases are spending months and years of their childhood in institutions when they should be in their community. It warns that the current system of support for those with learning disabilities or autism is letting down some of the most vulnerable children in the country.

## News

[CQC calls for action to fix the closed system that leads to people with a learning disability or autism being segregated in hospital](#) The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is calling for an independent review of every person who is being held in segregation in mental health wards for children and young people and wards for people with a learning disability or autism. These reviews should examine the quality of care, the safeguards to protect the person and the plans for discharge. CQC makes the recommendation in [the interim report published](#); in which it shares early findings from its review of restraint, prolonged seclusion and segregation for people with a mental health problem, a learning disability or autism.

[DoLS replacement bill becomes law ahead of expected implementation in 2020](#) The Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019, which will introduce Liberty Protection Safeguards to replace Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards has received Royal Assent with an implementation date still to be confirmed by the government.

## Study

[Evaluation of the Diagnostic Stability of the Early Autism Spectrum Disorder Phenotype in the General Population Starting at 12 Months](#) This article reports on a US cohort study of 1269 toddlers with and without autism spectrum disorder who received their first diagnostic evaluation between 12 and 36 months. The findings suggest that an ASD diagnosis becomes stable starting at 14 months of age and overall is more stable than other diagnostic categories, including language or developmental delay. After a toddler is identified as having ASD, there may be a low chance that he or she will test within typical levels at 3 years of age.

## Guidance

[Constipation and people with a learning disability](#) Leaflets and guidelines to help families and carers of people with a learning disability identify signs of constipation have been updated by NHS England.

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