

Studies

[An Ongoing Process: The Implementation of an Intervention for People With Profound Intellectual and Multiple Disabilities Over Time](#)

The "Programma Perspectief" intervention aims to provide optimal support to people with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities. Knowledge concerning intervention fidelity is outdated and scarce as is typical for the support of persons with special needs.

[Feeding and Swallowing Disorder in Adults With Intellectual Disabilities: Associated Factors](#)

Feeding and swallowing disorders (FSD)-dysphagia are common in adults with intellectual disabilities and frequently overseen by caregivers.

[Feeding, dysphagia, weight, and sleep in pediatric patients: mediation analysis and comparison of autism and non-autism](#)

Feeding difficulties impact child wellbeing and are associated with sleep disorders. Children with autism are known to have problems with sleep; however, a gap in evidence exists regarding relationships between other symptoms such as feeding difficulties.

[Sleep problems and sensory features in children with low-average cognitive abilities and autism spectrum disorder](#)

Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) often have more sleep disturbances than typically developing children. These sleep disturbances have been suggested to be associated with atypical sensory features in children with ASD. Sleep habits have also been linked to intelligence and cognitive function in children. However, it remains unclear whether sleep disturbances in children with ASD are related to intelligence or sensory features.

[Age and sex are associated with Alzheimer's disease neuropathology in Down syndrome](#)

This study investigates the association of age and biological sex with Alzheimer's disease (AD) neuropathology in Down syndrome (DS).

[An examination of the hopelessness levels and self-esteem of parents with special needs children](#)

Every parent dreams of having a child with typical development. However, parents may have a child with special needs due to any reason that occurs before or after birth. Having a child with special needs is a difficult situation to accept. This problematic situation may be associated with parents' self-esteem and hopelessness levels.

[The effectiveness of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy on parental stress in parents of special children: a meta-analysis](#)

Through a meta-analysis, this study evaluated the effectiveness of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) in reducing stress among parents of children with special needs. This study aimed to quantify the intervention effect and identify moderating variables, such as cultural differences and intervention parameters, to provide evidence for clinical practice.

[Elevated autistic traits and social anxiety, and reduced empathy in adult women with triple X syndrome](#)

Triple X syndrome (TXS, 47,XXX) is a sex chromosome aneuploidy affecting females. The condition is associated with cognitive, emotional, and social challenges. While prior research has primarily focused on children, the social and psychological profile of adult women with TXS remains understudied.

Calls for Evidence

[Review of CQC Regulation 9A: visiting and accompanying in care homes, hospitals and hospices \(easy read\)](#)

We want to hear your views about the new rules on visiting care homes, hospitals and hospices. Your views will help the government to decide if the rules are working or if they could be better.

Blogs

[Bild joins call for urgent action on overdue LeDeR report](#)

Bild is among the signatories of a joint letter sent to Health Secretary Wes Streeting today, calling for urgent action to get the LeDeR programme back on track and help save lives.

[Kumudu and Amanda at the Social History of Learning Disability Conference 2025](#)

Rep Body Member, Kumudu and Membership and Engagement Lead, Amanda went to the Open University for the SHLD conference to run the Good Lives Photobooth. Here they share how it went.

News

[The CBF's statement on preventable deaths of people with learning disabilities](#)

The CBF joins more than 40 organisations and campaigners calling on the Government to take action to ensure people with learning disabilities do not die early, preventable deaths.

[Bereaved families demand answers on LeDeR report delay](#)

Bereaved families and disability campaigners have sent an open letter to the Health Secretary, Wes Streeting, demanding that the Learning from Lives and Deaths: people with a learning disability and autistic people (LeDeR) programme be put back on track to save lives.

[ITV News story highlights the impact of detaining people with a learning disability and autistic people in hospital](#)

An investigation by ITV shows that people with a learning disability and autistic people who are detained under the Mental Health Act are subject to restraint and overmedication.

[Number of autistic people in mental health hospitals: latest data](#)

The latest monthly Assuring Transformation NHS Digital data shows that in June 2025:

- 2,040 autistic people and people with a learning disability are in mental health hospitals in England. Of these, 1,480 (73%) are autistic.
- There are 250 under 18s in inpatient units that are autistic or have a learning disability. Of these, 240 (96%) are autistic.
- The number of autistic people without a learning disability detained in mental health hospitals has increased by 144% since 2015.

[The impact of having ADHD and Autism](#)

ADHD and autism are two neurodiversity conditions that present in contrasting ways. In our recent research we heard from people who were diagnosed with, or suspected they had, both conditions. They talked to us about the impact of being diagnosed with both conditions.

[Updated guidance on dementia and learning disabilities](#)

The British Psychological Society and the Royal College of Psychiatrists have published updated guidance on managing dementia in people with learning disabilities.

[Neurodivergent adolescents experience twice the emotional burden at school compared to their neurotypical peers](#)

New research from the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience (IoPPN) at King's College London, in partnership with University College London and Anna Freud, has found that negative school experiences generate twice the emotional burden in autistic and ADHD adolescents compared to their neurotypical classmates, and that this is significantly correlated with depression and anxiety.

[Autism and ADHD diagnostic pathways for children and young people: MPs write to DHSC with recommendations](#)

The Health and Social Care Committee has today written to the Health Minister Stephen Kinnock, on the subject of the autism and ADHD diagnostic pathways for children and young people, following the Committee's evidence session on the subject on 25 June.

[More internet safety support needed for people with learning disabilities](#)

People with learning disabilities are being left to navigate the internet and online world without the support they need, according to a new report from the Digital Care Hub that found 85% of people with learning disabilities do not receive regular help using online services.

[Study now recruiting: Improving Care Education and Treatment Reviews for people who are autistic or have learning disabilities](#)

An important project launched last year exploring experiences of Care Education and Treatment Reviews (C(E)TRs) and how these might be improved. Our Evidence and Research team are supporting the project, Care Education and Treatment Reviews for people with learning disabilities and/or autistic people (CECiLiA), which is now in search of participants.

[SEND: Disabled Children's Partnership sets out its vision for reform](#)

A new report from the Disabled Children's Partnership has outlined its vision for a reformed education system for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), aiming to help families access the support their children need without unnecessary fights.

[MPs launch new inquiry to address disability employment gap](#)

The Commons Work and Pensions Committee has launched a new inquiry, Employment support for disabled people, on how to improve the job prospects of disabled people and is calling for the views of disabled people, employers, and experts.

[Restricting EHCP access would harm thousands of SEND children, warns BPS](#)

Joining calls that access to EHCPs should not be restricted for those who need them, Chair of the British Psychological Society's Division of Educational and Child Psychology Dr Helena Bunn.

["Children in SEND system being transported long distances to school becoming more commonplace," says BPS](#)

"This is yet another example of the current SEND system suffering the long-term consequences of dismantled local authority prevention," says DECP Chair Dr Helena Bunn.

[Why the antagonism over the rise in autism diagnoses? It's actually good news](#)

A ninefold increase is the result of huge advances in our understanding – and brings the hope of fulfilling lives to many more people.

[Is the huge rise in autism diagnoses really good news? We're not so sure](#)

Dr Richard Hassall, Prof Philip Graham and Dr John Cromby respond to an article by Prof Gina Rippon suggesting that the rise is not a matter for concern.

[Again and again, we are shocked by the treatment of learning-disabled people. Yet we never learn from the past](#)

A landmark book exposes the history of loathing that underpins such scandals as Winterbourne View. It has received next to no attention.

[Premier Inn expands its Thrive programme for inclusive employment](#)

Whitbread, the owner of Premier Inn, has expanded its Thrive programme to the Liverpool City Region and plans to offer support to an additional 36 students annually.

[Working with East Midlands Railway to improve travel for autistic people](#)

Our charity has worked with East Midlands Railway (EMR) to support efforts to make public transport more accessible and inclusive for autistic people and their families.

[Highstreet fashion retailer launches inclusive and assistive clothing range for children](#)

Primark is to bring more inclusive and assistive features into its children's clothing range as standard, so more kids feel comfortable in their clothes.

[Four autism subtypes map onto distinct genes, traits](#)

An analysis of more than 5,000 autistic children and their siblings underscores the idea that autism can be understood as multiple conditions with distinct trajectories.

[Cell 'antennae' link autism, congenital heart disease](#)

Variants in genes tied to both conditions derail the formation of cilia, the tiny hair-like structure found on almost every cell in the body, a new study finds.

['Intrinsically connected': how human neurodiversity could help save nature](#)

Biodiversity is linked to people's diversity, and nature lends itself to people who are different, says author Joe Harkness.