

**Welcome to the new Learning Disabilities Bulletin!**

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## Studies

### [Factors Associated With Restraint Application in Children and Adolescents With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Displaying Severe Challenging Behavior](#)

Emergency physical restraints may still be widely used, with prevalence rates ranging from 11% to 78% across different service sectors (Fitton & Jones, 2020). At times, behavior analysts may recommend restraint when severe challenging behavior poses significant safety risks (e.g., intense aggression causing severe tissue damage; Foxx & Meindl, 2007; Vollmer et al., 2011).

### [Mental Health Effects of Bullying in Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities: A Systematic Review](#)

Individuals with intellectual disabilities are at higher risk of bullying than their peers without such disabilities. Bullying occurrence tends to encourage over time. However, individuals with intellectual disabilities are often less prospective to seek help. Therefore, educators, caregivers, and mental health practitioners to be aware of bullying risk and psychological effects.

### [Exploring the Experiences of Caring for a Family Member With Intellectual Disabilities Displaying Behaviours That Challenge and/or Mental Health Difficulties Within the United Kingdom: A Meta-Ethnographic Review](#)

Family members are key caregivers for people with intellectual disabilities who also present with behaviours that challenge and/or mental health difficulties. This review paper highlighted, within the United Kingdom, the various roles and tasks family members take on within their caregiving role, including learning, educating others, navigating and battling with complex care systems and protecting their loved ones.

### [Exploring the Perspectives of Siblings in Transition Planning for their Brothers and Sisters with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities](#)

During transition planning for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), family-school partnerships are critical for post-high school success. Siblings of individuals with IDD fulfill essential roles within a family unit and may fulfill caregiving responsibilities as their brothers and sisters with IDD transition into post-high school settings.

### [A Systematic Review of Play-Integrated AAC Interventions for Minimally Verbal and Nonspeaking Children](#)

This systematic review explored past experimental research on augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) interventions for minimally and nonspeaking autistic and intellectually/developmentally disabled children, with a focus on interventions which integrated play.

### [Cost-effectiveness of osteoporotic fracture risk assessment in people with intellectual disabilities: a UK NHS modelling study](#)

We compared the cost-effectiveness of alternative fracture risk assessment strategies for people with intellectual disabilities (ID) aged  $\geq 40$  years from a UK National Health Services perspective over a lifetime horizon.

## Guidance

[Minimum standards for keyworking services for autistic children and young people and children and young people with a learning disability](#)

These minimum standards support integrated care boards (ICBs) as they commission keyworking services for autistic children and young people and children and young people with a learning disability who are at risk of an inpatient mental health hospital admission or who are currently in an inpatient setting.

## Webinars

[Working together with parents who have learning disabilities: the role of Adult Services](#)

Join an open access webinar that will explore key messages from a new research briefing, Supporting parents with a learning disability – the role of Adult Services.

## Blogs

[My journey through NHS Talking Therapies](#)

When I first started NHS Talking Therapies, I wasn't sure what to expect. I felt worried that it would make me feel upset and it was a bit scary to talk to someone that I didn't know about difficult things that had happened.

[My Reviews of 'The Assembly': Bold Questions and Honest Conversations](#)

The Assembly is an interview show on ITV where well-known celebrities are questioned by a group of autistic and neurodivergent people and people with learning disabilities.

## News

[Deaths of people with a learning disability and/or autism in England and Wales over the past 10 years](#)

You asked: I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding deaths of people with a learning disability and/or autism in England and Wales over the past 10 years.

[Social care inequities hub launched by SCIE](#)

A new online resource hub aims to bring together research, data, and evidence from practice to help stakeholders understand and address inequities in social care.

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

In 2024, the government made some new rules to make sure that everyone who is in a care home, hospital or hospice can have people visit them. Last year we asked lots of people what they thought about the new rules.

[MPs to hold a debate on SEND provision and reform](#)

On Monday 13 April in the House of Commons Chamber, MPs will hold a debate on SEND provision and reform.



**Learning Disabilities**  
**Intellectual disabilities** **Quality of life**  
**Carers** **Research**  
**Mental capacity** **Challenging behaviour**  
**Health information**



**Mersey Care**  
NHS Foundation Trust

21 April 2026

[Staying Connected and Being Seen with Unanima](#)

Unanima is an arts development organisation based in Mansfield. They work to remove the barriers that stop learning disabled and autistic people from following their ambitions in the arts and in society.

