

What is it?

National Autistic Taskforce - An independent guide to quality care for autistic people

The National Autistic Taskforce is wholly run and managed by autistic people and is funded through an open grant from The Shirley Foundation. This guide is authored entirely by autistic people with extensive collective knowledge and experience of social care provision to autistic people.

This guide is intended to apply to the whole autism spectrum and to both children and adults. We explicitly include autistic people with and without learning disabilities; those considered to have complex needs; those who do and don't use speech to communicate; those considered to display "challenging behaviour"; those with dual and additional diagnoses of all kinds; those with and without 'forensic' history

Find out more here <https://bit.ly/2Uga6lp>

SCIE - Carers' lives & caring issues: knowledge & research evidence

This resource presents findings from a scoping review of knowledge and research evidence relating to carers and carers lives and issues. These findings should inform future research, policy development and improve practice in delivering carer support.

Find out more here <https://bit.ly/2CVmgpd>

National Audit Office (NAO) - Supporting disabled people to work report

This report is about the Department for Work & Pensions' support to help disabled people overcome barriers to work. This includes people whose long-term health problems have an effect on their ability to get or keep jobs.

<https://bit.ly/2YCqf2Z>

What is it?

Department of Health and Social Care national recruitment campaign: *Every day is different*

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) launched a national recruitment campaign in February: *Every day is different*.

Visit the online [resource centre](#) where you can find guidance on how to post job vacancies online, as well as leaflets, campaign posters and other materials for providers to promote recruitment in adult social care.

You can find out more and view the roles available on the [Every Day is Different website](#), and on the [Facebook page](#).

Children and Young People

Mainstream is not for all: the educational experiences of autistic young people

This article highlights two current issues facing autistic young people in their pursuit of suitable education. First, mainstream education is advocated for all, from a rights-based perspective on inclusion, yet, as 12 autistic young people from Northern Ireland demonstrate, being academically able does not mean they are mainstream able. Second, autistic young people, who are largely missing from the debate on educational improvement, and in particular the inclusion debate, ought to be central to this discussion and have much to add. The social model of disability is considered relevant to autism. For the young people referred to in this article, inclusion is a feeling (a sense of belonging) not a place (mainstream or otherwise).

Read more: <https://bit.ly/2STLddG>

Autism tips for teachers – by an autistic teacher

While every autistic young person is different, many face common challenges. One teacher shares his solutions.

<https://bit.ly/2uMPQbL>

SCIE - Improving young people's experiences in transition to and from inpatient mental health settings

A quick guide for mental health practitioners supporting young people. Transitions into and out of inpatient mental health settings are an important time for young people and their families. Providing expert support and taking enough time to plan, particularly at discharge, can give them the best chance of recovery.

<https://bit.ly/2WG5Jq0>

Resources and other bulletins

Care management group (CMG) - Learning disability support provider launches pioneering easy-read transgender guide

This easy read guide is about what it means to be transgender and the issues you or someone you know may experience. The guide looks at the difference between sex and gender and explains the different words and terms linked to transgender identity.

The guide can be found here <https://bit.ly/2DGGT7T>

GOV.UK Guidance - Oral care and people with a learning disability

To help health professionals, paid social care staff and family members to support someone with learning disabilities to get good oral care.

<https://bit.ly/2HoxdlZ>

Public Health England (PHE) How social care staff can recognise and manage pain in people with learning disabilities

<https://bit.ly/2FP1wQE>

Slimming World rolls out adaptations to make weight loss clubs more accessible

A new study led by the University of Sheffield in partnership with weight-loss organisation Slimming World has found that there are a number of barriers preventing people with learning disabilities attending weight loss groups.

Read more <https://bit.ly/2WJeUfJ>

CQC - Relationships and sexuality in adult social care services Easy read version of guidance (February 2019)

CQC have written some guidance to help inspectors and social care providers to understand the sexuality needs of people using services.

Read the guide here: <https://bit.ly/2WJSWcv>

What does it take to reimagine social care?

Think Local Act Personal (TLAP) publishes a new study looking at how some councils are transforming social care by working closely with innovative providers and shifting their own approach to commissioning.

<https://bit.ly/2UiOyoj>

Blogs

#Rightful Lives A day in the life of Alexis Quinn March 2019

My day starts at about 04:30am. Nobody minds my early rise as I live on my own with my daughter and housekeeper. My clothes are organised meticulously from colour coded socks to folded underpants so it doesn't take long before I've donned the necessary and head out for my daily 10km run.

I place my key, to my front door, under the carpet and head out. I've not always been allowed my own key. I've not always been allowed to open or close a door.

In fact, I spent almost 4 years begging for the right to leave a building in order to breath fresh air, asking to leave a room and requesting trousers and shoes in order to run....

Read more <https://bit.ly/2CREldR>

Care Quality Commission (CQC) Dr Paul Lelliott's blog

Restraint, seclusion and segregation in hospitals and care homes: an update on work from Dr Paul Lelliott, Deputy Chief Inspector of Hospitals and lead for mental health.

<https://bit.ly/2HZJIFG>

Darren Devine Blog - Are Learning Disabilities Mortality Review millions being spent wisely?

It was promoted as a world-first that would deliver improvements to the lives of people with learning disabilities by investigating the reasons behind premature deaths. Darren Devine speaks to those who say the aims of the learning disabilities mortality review (LeDeR) are being undermined.

<https://bit.ly/2EBkQkI>

Parents take Mental Capacity Act challenge to High Court

When a child with a learning disability turns 18, parents can find themselves feeling marginalised as social workers take charge of key decision making at best interest meetings.

<https://bit.ly/2ORodb2>

Darren Devine Blog - Community living settings: are they just institutions in another guise?

In the last four years, the number of people with learning disabilities and autism in long-stay hospitals has fallen by around 20%. But does changing the setting of care alter its nature when institutional routines endure?

<https://bit.ly/2TRJzG0>

Blogs

FINDING PURPOSE AND SKIN IN THE GAME: HELEN SANDERSON ON TRANSFORMATIONAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Helen Sanderson FRSA talks to us about 'Wellbeing Teams' - an RSA Transform-supported initiative aiming to radically change the way health and social care is delivered.

Helen has over twenty years' experience developing person-centred practices in the UK under her belt, including as an advisor to the Department of Health and co-author of the Department's first guidelines on person-centred planning.

Read more <https://bit.ly/2Vk8OIH>

Institute for Government - The Government must not continue delaying the social care green paper

The fifth delay to the publication of the social care green paper is a cause for concern, writes Graham Atkins.

Once again, the Government has missed its self-imposed deadline for publishing the social care green paper. Health Secretary Matt Hancock had promised in January that it would be published "before April". This failure to publish is the fifth occasion that the green paper has been delayed in just over two years.

Read more <https://bit.ly/2CXFomn>