



NW SEND Regional Network Newsletter

December 2019/January 2020

The network is keen to profile effective practice developed in the North West and other regional contributions. Do please consider sending your examples for inclusion in future editions.

If there are particular areas of work or themes that you would like support with, activities or events then do let us know. We would also welcome any good news you have to share, or challenges you'd like to work with others to find solutions for, in order that we can share the learning across the North West. We welcome contributions to network activities, requests for connections for support, information about forthcoming events for future editions of this newsletter and new additions to the newsletter circulation list.

Also, do check out our website www.nwsend.network which has everything you might want to know in one place, including previous newsletters.

Dr Cathy Hamer
NW SEND Regional Network co-ordinator
Email: cwh01@hotmail.co.uk Mob: 0778 357 7284

REGIONAL NETWORK EVENTS

13.1.20 The role of social care in embedding the SEND reforms

9.30 for 10:00 to 15:30 St Thomas Centre, Ardwick Green North, Manchester M12 6FZ

This workshop, delivered by the Council for Disabled Children (CDC) is for social care practitioners, managers and leads (children's and adults' services, mainstream and disabled children's services) as well as SEN teams, those involved in EHC needs assessments and planning and regional parent carer forum representatives.

The workshop will cover:

- The Legal framework for SEND and social care
- The role of social care in EHC needs assessment and planning
- Good quality social care advice and information
- Information sharing and consent
- Role of the designated social care officer (DSCO)

There will be exercises and opportunities to put theory into practice throughout the day, drawing on examples CDC has gathered, as well as through colleagues sharing their practice on the day.

Please **register for free** [here](#)

For more information please contact Dan Martin at CDC dmartin@ncb.org.uk

16.1.20 Preparing for Adulthood network meeting 9.30 for 10 – 1

The Edge Centre, Riveredge, Wigan WN3 5AB

The session will provide some information, and an opportunity to share the current practice. We will be reviewing the work we have done to date on developing a PfA dashboard and sharing ideas and plans how to roll the approach out.

The session is aimed at the NW PfA network members, SEN leaders, Post 16-25 education and training providers and children and adult commissioners from across education, health and care.

Agenda

1. Arrival, registration, informal networking and refreshments 9:30-10:00
2. Welcome and Introductions 10:00- 10:10
3. Local Area Updates 10:10 – 10:30
4. Review of the PfA dashboard work to date and exploring how to roll out 10:30 -11:30
5. Break 11:30 – 11:45
6. evaluation of 2019/20 PfA Network using 4+1 tool 11:45 – 12:25
what have we tried, what have we learned, what are we pleased about, what are we concerned about, based on our learning what do we plan to do next?
7. Any other business 12:25

To book a place visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/86667895007>

31.1.20 Preparing for Adulthood are excited to be hosting a North of England Conference: Employment Opportunities for Young People with SEND.

This is a free conference for those who work in the North West, North East and Yorkshire & Humber to improve employment opportunities for young people with SEND whilst enabling NHS Trusts to recruit talent that traditional recruitment practices often miss.

Who should attend this conference?

- NHS SEND Leads in local areas
- NHS HR Directors
- LA SEND Leads
- LA PfA and Supported Internship Leads
- Health Education England representatives
- LA Employment and Skills Leads
- Chairs of Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise
- PCF representatives
- Representatives from regional young people's co-production groups

Aims of the Conference

There is a strong social and economic case to improving opportunities for young people with SEND to leave education with jobs and sustainable careers. As well as significant benefits for young people themselves, there are clear benefits for employers and for society as a whole.

Strengthening relationships and connections between local NHS Trusts, local PfA and Supported Internship Leads.

The aim is to create more Supported Internship programmes, so that more young people with SEND gain sustained employment.

Seeing is believing:

- see and hear from supported interns – learn what it's like for them
- see and hear from NHS trusts where this is happening – how they established it, what it's like and why do it

- hear about a couple of different possible delivery models, e.g. Project Choice, Project Search and an in-house model
- identify what might be holding us back and what we need to do to make progress
- spend time together in local areas to action plan next steps – to get from talk to action!

Lunch will be provided, so do register and let us know if you have any dietary requirements. If you have any questions about the conference, please get in touch.

Preparing for Adulthood: **01225 789135 | info@preparingforadulthood.org.uk**

Registration for online tickets will close after Thursday 23 January.

To book your place please use this link.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pfa-supported-internship-conference-wigan-tickets-85141792393?ref=estw>

7.2.20 Annual Reviews: Managing the Process Effectively 9.30 for 10

County Hall, 32 Fishergate, Preston PR1 8RL

This Annual Review workshop is led by members of the Department for Education SEND Adviser team and is intended to help local areas interpret and implement the process for the annual review of Education, Health and Care Plans. The workshop will review the legal requirements for local authorities, enable local reflections on progress to date, and facilitate the creation of a practical action plan to take back to the local area.

Aims

1. To assist local areas to interpret and apply the legal requirements of the Children and Families Act 2014 to the process of Education, Health and Care Plan Annual Reviews.
2. To create a compliant action plan to implement and manage good practice within the Local Area.

Audience

This workshop event is focused on LA responsibilities for the process, including reflections on experiences to date and common problems reported. The event is open to:

- 1 senior SENCO representative from each local authority with ability to influence practice in local schools.
- 1 senior health care representative from each local area.
- 1 senior social care representative from each local area.

Please note that 1 regional representative from the National Network of Parent Carer Forum (NNPCF) will also be invited.

To book a place: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/annual-reviews-managing-the-process-effectively-north-west-region-tickets-87130245911>

NB The above workshop is repeated as follows:

14.2.20 Annual Reviews: Managing the Process Effectively 9.30 for 10

Toxteth Annexe, Aigburth Road, Liverpool L17 7BN

To book a place: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/annual-reviews-managing-the-process-effectively-north-west-region-tickets-87130245911>

If your local area is no longer listed on the drop down menu of the order form, the allocation for your local authority will have been filled. If your local authority would like more than 3 places, please email SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com and provide the additional names you would like to add to the waiting list, along with their contact details and any dietary requirements.

Should you have any difficulties with the booking process, please contact Mott MacDonald at SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com

26.3.20 Preparing for Adulthood/Transition network meeting 9.30 for 10 – 12.30
The Edge Centre, Riveredge, Wigan WN3 5AB
To book a place email Barry.Jones@ndti.org.uk

OTHER EVENTS RELATING TO THE NORTH WEST

The Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families have been commissioned by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) to offer a comprehensive free Mental Health Awareness Training, centered around a one-day face-to-face training.

This one-day training will be **freely available** to those schools who:

- have not yet received Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Training in 2017 – 2018 **and**
 - are a mainstream secondary school, sixth form college, Pupil Referral Unit or a Free School
- Who is the training for?

The training will be available for up to two members of staff from over 1900 eligible schools and colleges. **View the directory of eligible secondary schools.**

The first two years of the three year programme were delivered by Mental Health First Aid England (2017 - 2018). The training being delivered is different to MHFA.

Where and when will the training take place?

Blackburn: 28.2.20, 6.3.20

Carlisle: 2.3.20, 3.3.20

Liverpool: 24.1.20, 7.2.20, 14.2.20

Manchester: 17.1.20, 31.1.20

[View the MHAT Training Schedule](#)

What will the Mental Health Awareness Training offer?

This one-day Mental Health Awareness Training for secondary schools is underpinned by the Centre's longstanding experience of working within schools to support pupil, parent/carer and staff mental health. The training is grounded on a rigorous evidence base.

It covers:

- What the evidence tells us about mental health difficulties in schools
- Spotting the early signs of a mental health problem
- Positive approaches to promoting mental health and wellbeing in the whole school community

How do I book a place?

If your school or college is listed on the directory, please email mhat@annafreud.org with the dates of the training you would like to attend.

9.1.20 Understanding and supporting autistic people in higher education

Manchester

This one-day introductory course builds your knowledge of autism and how to support autistic students at university. This course meets the BIS criteria for university mentors and non-medical helpers.

Autism.org.uk/events

10.1.20 Whole School SEND Review Trial – Presentation Day 8.30 - 10

Crown and Mitre Hotel, English Street, Carlisle CA3 8HZ

Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) and National Association for Special Educational Needs (nasen) are recruiting 160 secondary schools for a trial of the WSS Review and are focusing on the NORTH

The WSS Review provides a framework that enables school leaders to evaluate the effectiveness of current SEND provision through a structured self-evaluation and peer review with another school. The SEND Review Guide and peer review process helps schools identify areas for improvement within their SEND provision, equips schools to create and

review improvement plans. This evaluation process supports schools to embed a focus on SEND as a fundamental to normal school improvement practice. Katherine Walsh, Project Director, will deliver a presentation about the WSS Review Trial for Headteachers and SENCOs in Carlisle on Friday 10 January 2020 from 08:30 – 10:00. Refreshments will be provided and there will be an opportunity to ask questions and sign up. If you are unable to make the presentation but are interested in being involved, you can arrange a visit to your school between 11:00 and 16:00 on 10 January 2020. Email [Kayla Simpson George](mailto:Kayla.Simpson.George@theviewtrust.org) (Project Assistant) or [Helen Prosser](mailto:Helen.Prosser@theviewtrust.org) (Project Manager) at to express interest in attending or having a school visit.

14.1.20 and 16.1.20 High Quality (Quality First) Teaching: Train the Trainer Course

Tor View Teaching School, Lancashire, Ewood Campus

A free 2-day course to pilot a regional SEND CPLD resource programme

The Whole School SEND Consortium is part of a growing community of practice committed to improving provision and outcomes for children and young people with SEND. The work of the consortium is based on the principle that the knowledge and expertise needed to develop the workforce already exists in the system and that knowledge exchange can occur through effective collaboration.

The Department for Education, through the SEND Schools' Workforce contract with the Whole School SEND consortium has provided funding for regional SEND events developed by the Regional SEND Leaders to address identified priorities. In Lancashire and West Yorkshire (LWY) upskilling SENCOs in evidence-informed High Quality Teaching has been identified as a key regional priority.

Each LWY LA is offered 2 fully funded places for **experienced** SENCOs (additional places are offered to large LAs) and some places will be made available for the RSC to nominate MAT SENCOs on the pilot course.

Participants on the free pilot will be trained in the process of delivering evidence-informed High Quality Teaching within their own school or to clusters of schools in a locality. The final resource materials will include a power point and resources for the delivery of a school-based 2-3 hour twilight. The intention is to ensure that all course participants feel confident in understanding and disseminating best evidence-led practice. The course will include materials suitable for Early Years, primary and secondary mainstream and Further Education Colleges. To ensure pilot participants are able to make a full contribution to the development of the resource we are looking for a minimum of 3 years SENCO/ specialist school experience. All participants must be school based.

The time commitment required is two full days to receive the training. Once finalised a full set of resources will be made available free of charge for pilot course participants.

The deadline for applications is 1pm on Friday 29th November. To express an interest and if you have any queries, please contact Katrina Brockbank k.brockbank@theviewtrust.org or Angela Holdsworth a.holdsworth@theviewtrust.org.

22.1.20 Dealing with difficult people and situations, courageous conversations, Warrington

<https://www.pccevents.co.uk/pcc/frontend/reg/thome.csp?pageID=1148870&eventID=2165>

Motivational Interviewing Training course

January - April 2020 (see course information for specific dates)

This at-cost, six session training programme gives practitioners the opportunities to train to a level of proficiency in MI. For further details, please click

here https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.wixstatic.com%2Fugd%2F79e42a_ccdc50f31bcc4a099b65671ad3987ec7.pdf&data=02%7C01%7C%7C4d7b55fc3ed48d5a9c908d7523e6f93%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7

[C1%7C0%7C637068300416866488&data=UiFieYqHY9%2F3SHo2hlgC%2Fh3Y4WZ7AmtNr6ppXMEqBRA%3D&reserved=0](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/children-and-disability-local-and-national-perspectives-tickets-80240683043) for further details.

28.1.19 Supporting Neuro-diverse Young People in Schools.

Warrington, NHS England Learning Disability and Autism Programme

The NHS England Long Term Plan aims to better support Children and Young People who are autistic or who have learning disabilities. In order to achieve the most positive outcomes for our young people, NHS England are keen to hear from young people across different sectors in order to make a difference to their lives. School is such an important part of a young person's life and they would like to share with schools some feedback from positive outcomes for neuro-diverse young people across the North. They would also like to hear from schools about what they would like to help them support their young people in the best possible way.

The conference will hear from:

- ✓ Schools in the North East where changes in policy have led to improved teacher and pupil outcomes
- ✓ Young people about Autism Acceptance and how it feels to be in school
- ✓ How Parent Carer Forums have worked with schools and supported parents
- ✓ Recommendations from the DfE Timpson review around behaviours that challenge
- ✓ Young people with lived experience with an offer to support school to make reasonable adjustments

The events have been funded via NHS England North regions and are free for delegates to attend. The audience for these events are young people, parents/ carers, schools and wider providers of children's services and places can be booked via the links below:

<https://www.events.england.nhs.uk/events/learning-disabilities-and-autism-programme-warrington>

28 & 29.1.20 PECS Level 2 Training Workshop

Manchester

Learn practical ideas for advanced lessons in expanding language and communication within functional activities, plus tools for identifying communication opportunities across the day. Successfully problem solve PECS implementation and take it to the next level.

Tel: 01273 609 555

Pecs-unitedkingdom.com

30.1.20 Children and Disability: Local and National Perspectives

9 – 3.45 The Quaker Meeting House, 22 School Lane, Liverpool L1 3BT

This one-day conference brings together a wide number of academics, NGO organisations, parent representative groups and Liverpool City Council to examine and understand the provision of services for children and young people with disabilities. The conference will provide an opportunity for researchers at the University of Liverpool to formally disseminate the findings of a pilot study carried out into the provision of services for disabled children in the Merseyside area which will be followed by a response by Liverpool City Council. Following on from this, the conference will explore the broader national context and explore how children and young people with disabilities, and their families, can better navigate a complex system, and have their rights upheld and secured. The conference will also include a "Know Your Rights" session which will be aimed at breaking down the law into a clear and understandable format for the benefit of families, parents and guardians.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/children-and-disability-local-and-national-perspectives-tickets-80240683043>

30.3.19 – 5.4.19 World Autism Awareness Week

https://www.autism.org.uk/get-involved/world-autism-awareness-week.aspx?utm_source=The%20National%20Autistic%20Society&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=World%20Autism%20Awareness%20Week

[_campaign=11002581_enewsletter%20-%202024.10.19%20ACTIVE%20%5Bautismguidance%5D&utm_content=WAAW%202020%20%5Bautismguidance%5D&Keywords=WAAW%202020%20autismguidance&dm_i=YA3,6JT N9,WN4D6D,Q1CUN,1&mc_cid=e2606246ee&mc_eid=d142dc033f](https://www.waaw.org.uk/campaign=11002581_enewsletter%20-%202024.10.19%20ACTIVE%20%5Bautismguidance%5D&utm_content=WAAW%202020%20%5Bautismguidance%5D&Keywords=WAAW%202020%20autismguidance&dm_i=YA3,6JT N9,WN4D6D,Q1CUN,1&mc_cid=e2606246ee&mc_eid=d142dc033f)

31.3.20 SEND single route of redress national trial, Manchester

Save the date. Venue to be advised.

Hear the latest updates on the SEND National Trial from a Tribunal judge.

24.4.20 Building the Right Support, Pinewood Education Centre, Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport

Following on from Stockport's Highly Successful Transforming Care Event in January 2019 where they high-lighted PBS and Least Restrictive Practice they are now planning a 2nd Conference focusing on 'Building the Right Support'. Stockport's Challenging Behaviour Support Services for people with learning disability and/or Autism have undergone a period of rapid change and improvement. They have been working to train Stockport schools on PBS and collaborating with colleagues in social care to improve outcomes for young people and families. They are looking to implement key objectives set out in the transforming care agenda.

This Conference has been organised to update senior leaders, clinicians, teachers and parents with these developments locally and nationally, and to help implement Positive Behaviour Support across Health, Education and Social Care.

Key speakers:

- Guzanfar Ali, Project Manager (Transforming Care), Programme Manager (NHS GM Accelerator Programme), NHS Salford CCG & Greater Manchester Commissioning Hub.
- Heather Armstrong, Clinical Psychologist and Clinical Lead for the CAMHS LD Team, Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust.
- Sue Barrett, Lead Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist at Stockport Healthy Young Minds (a child and adolescent mental health service) under Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust.
- Andrea Flood, Clinical Psychologist, a University Clinical Teacher, as part of the Doctorate in Clinical Psychology Programme Team at the University of Liverpool.
- Carla Innes is a Specialist Clinical Psychologist and clinical lead for the challenging behaviour pathway in Stockport at Healthy Young Minds (a child and adolescent mental health service) under Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust.
- Andy Smith, Associate Consultant, Pathways Associates.
- Kelly Taylor, Strategic Case Manager for the North, Children and Young People, Learning Disability Programme, NHS England

For further information and to book a place contact Tanya Farley on 07966 399 709 or email stockporttransformingcare@gmail.com

24 & 25.4.20 The Tes SEN Show in Manchester brings learning alive.

Returning over 2-days this show gives EN teachers access to a wide range of CPD opportunities from seminars, workshops, an Inclusion Theatre and TeachMeets to panel debates, a parent-carer-teacher forum and a busy supplier marketplace. The Tes SEN Show is a must for SEN educators.

Register **FREE** today and book **Early Bird** priced seminars by Friday 6 March

<https://www.tessenshow.co.uk/manchester>

15 – 18.6.20 ADOS 2: Administration and coding

Manchester

The course takes place over 4 days for Modules 1 to 4. Trainees will become familiar with the administration and coding of each of these modules through watching and coding videos

of the ADOS, and through discussion with our highly experienced, expert trainers. Trainees will also have the opportunity to practice various tasks, and explore the materials and toys provided with the ADOS-2 kit.

ADOS-2 is the latest revision of the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule, and has been adapted to anticipate the changes to the diagnostic definitions of DSM-5. The ADOS is the most widely used observational assessment in the diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder, for both clinical and research purposes. It is often described as the “Gold Standard” research assessment for autism.

<https://our.learningdisabilitieshealthnetwork.org.uk/t/ados2-administration-and-coding/1734>

SHARING PRACTICE ACROSS THE NORTH WEST: Blackpool Head

Start

Whole School Academic Resilience Approach

A presentation to:

- Explore current school policy and guidelines regarding mental health and wellbeing
- Investigate the crucial role of co-production in creating more resilient schools
- Examine good practice from Blackpool

<https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/WW10%20Whole%20school%20academic%20resilience%20approach%20-%20Blackpool%20HeadStart.pdf>

SURVEY:

The ‘**Lives Lived Well**’ Survey is a major survey of special schools who teach young people aged 14 – 19 with PMLD. The questionnaire aims to shed light on all the good practice in UK schools with respect to independence, community participation and wellbeing for this group of learners. The questionnaire itself and full details about its aims and objectives can be accessed using the online link below. It should only take about 15 minutes to complete.

https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9mCWWIZATURk2up

GUIDANCE:

NHS England has published some guidance on **how to improve the identification of people with a learning disability in order to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes**. Please see the attached link to the publication.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/improving-identification-of-people-with-a-learning-disability-guidance-for-general-practice/>

RESOURCES:

NW SEND Network are pleased to be able to share the slides from the following events at

<https://www.nwsend.network/>

- **'Exploring the building blocks of joint working to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND: Aligning Different Programmes'**
- **NW SEND Early years action learning set.**

Resources from DfE/IPSEA led SEND Decision Making and the Law workshops

In September, October and November 2019, workshops were held in 9 regions across England to assist local authorities (SEND and social care representatives) and health care representatives in interpreting and applying the legal requirements of the Children and Families Act 2014 to some of the key decision points. These

workshops were led by the DfE SEND Adviser team and IPSEA, and facilitated by Mott MacDonald.

All resources used or referenced in the workshops are now available online at: <https://www.sendpathfinder.co.uk/send-decision-making-and-the-law-workshops>.

For any queries or information please contact Mott MacDonald at SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com.

EHCP Annual review resource

Amy, a member of the Council for Disabled Children's youth advisory group FLARE, has created an incredible resource to support children and young people who have an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP).

The resource explains to children and young people what an EHCP annual review is, who should be invited, how to prepare for it and how children and young people can get their views, experiences and opinions across.

It's so important that children and young people understand that they should share their views in whichever way is most comfortable for them. Children and young people have a right to be involved in their EHCP annual reviews and this resource will provide support and guidance on the different ways that they can be involved in their annual reviews.

Please share this with any children and young people you work with or various contacts within your organisations to distribute. You can download the resource from this

link: <https://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/help-resources/resources/amys-education-health-and-care-plan-ehcp-resource>

FOCUS: Autism

Autism and CAMHS toolkit

<https://www.autism-alliance.org.uk/autism-camhs-toolkit/>

Camouflaging and autism

<https://kids.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/frym.2019.00129>

Oughtism is a new, open access journal on autistic culture.

<https://eur05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fscholarworks.gvsu.edu%2Fought%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7C8ce7e7f692624a5ab55d08d7823124d5%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637121019886828206&data=cyYzUKkMH7GD4aW1eBtQmz4EeT7J6rYB86i3EnYeL3w%3D&reserved=0>

New frameworks launched to improve care and support for autistic people and people with learning disabilities

Two new frameworks have been commissioned by Health Education England (HEE) from Skills for Health. The aim is to improve care and support for autistic people and people with learning disabilities.

They are freely accessible online:

www.skillsforhealth.org.uk/learningdisabilityandautismframeworks

Positive about autism news

<https://mailchi.mp/8ab071585242/autism-newsletter?e=acbe2531b0>

Ten years on from the Autism Act

<https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/WW12%20Ten%20years%20on%20from%20the%20Autism%20Act%20-%20Simon%20Leftley%20and%20Trevor%20Wright.pdf>

A REQUEST FOR RESOURCES

Please see the below request from Pat Bullen of NDTi asking you to share any existing resources that would support parents/carers when their young people move from children's to adults' health and social care arrangements, as part of a short-term DHSC funded project (end Mar 2020).

"Project purpose and intended outcomes:

Our intention is to develop resources for local providers to support transition between children's and adults' services more effectively, and to reduce anxiety and concern that many parent carers have during this stressful and often complex time. The focus will be on care and support throughout, helping services move away from a medical model of disability to one focussed on wellbeing.

We also see this as including helping parent carers to navigate the transition of their young people from child to adult services and to empower them with the knowledge to approach this period with confidence and the opportunity to create peer networks to reduce isolation, and to be partners in care.

The partnership comprises Contact; Carers UK; National Network of Parents and Carers Forums (NNPCF) and NDTi (National Development Team for Inclusion, which hosts Preparing for Adulthood)."

If you have any resources that you think would be appropriate, please contact Pat directly on pat.bullen@ndti.org.uk.

FOCUS: Protecting disabled children from sexual abuse

The NSPCC has published a report examining the views of parents and carers of disabled children and young people on how to keep them safe from child sexual abuse. The research suggests that professionals should work in partnership with parents to ensure that disabled children receive consistent, accessible information on safe touch, choice and control, and how they can let others know when they feel unsafe.

https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/media/1879/parents-and-carers-views-on-preventing-sexual-abuse-of-disabled-children.pdf?mc_cid=e2606246ee&mc_eid=d142dc033f

MENTAL HEALTH

What role for local government in addressing our children and young people's mental health crisis?

<https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/FS10%20The%20role%20of%20local%20government%20in%20addressing%20our%20children%20and%20young%20people%20s%20mental%20health%20crisis%20-%20Jenny%20Coles%20%20Jasmine%20Ali%20and%20Andy%20Bell.pdf>

TOOLS FOR TALKING

Resources to facilitate culturally sensitive, person-centred communication and understanding, service planning and delivery. [The tools for talking include five short videos and five activities.](#) They were developed primarily for use in social support settings to facilitate communication and information sharing between people with learning disabilities from minority ethnic communities and service providers. However, they may have wider applicability and could be used in a variety of settings.

The tools were developed during the ASC-LD study and are based on the results of interviews with 32 adults with learning disabilities from minority ethnic communities and a Partnership Event held in November 2013.

[Click here for an easy read summary of the project.](#)

Amongst other themes, five topics emerged as important which were each developed into an illustrative video and an exploratory activity.

The five topics relate to:

- Culture
- Good support
- Independence
- Relational networks
- Activities.

Please see the [Instructions for using the Tools for Talking](#) for more information. All the resources are free to download and reproduce and can be accessed from the [Resources](#) tab on the [Tools for Talking website](#). Find out more about the project by going to the [ASC-LD page on the University of Birmingham Website](#).

Tools for Talking are also hosting some of the materials that are described in a recently published book ***CBT for people with Intellectual Disabilities – Thinking Creatively*** by Andrew Jahoda, Biza Stenfert Kroese and Carol Pert (2017). This book examines the influence others have on the lives of people with intellectual disabilities and how this impacts on their psychological well-being. Based on the authors' clinical experiences of using cognitive behavioural therapy with people who have intellectual disabilities, it takes a social interactionist stance and positions their arguments in a theoretical and clinical context. The authors draw on their own experiences and several case studies to introduce novel approaches on how to adapt CBT assessment and treatment methods for one-to-one therapy and group interventions. They detail the challenges of adapting CBT to the needs of their clients and suggest innovative and practical solutions.

The Tools for Talking reflect the results of independent research commissioned by the National Institute for Health Research, School for Social Care Research (NIHR SSCR). The views expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the NIHR SSCR, NIHR, Department of Health or the NHS.

FOCUS: ASSESSMENT MEASURES available for practitioners and researchers

The Cerebra Centre for Neurodevelopmental Disorders, University of Birmingham, have developed a number of assessments that are designed to capture valid and reliable information about behaviour and affect in people with intellectual disability and/or autism. Many of these assessments were developed because measures that were available and in use were not appropriate for people with more severe intellectual disability who were non-verbal or minimally verbal. Consequently, the behaviour and affect of people with these characteristics was not assessed accurately or was neglected.

The assessments cover behaviours such as self-injury and aggression, stereotyped and repetitive behaviour, overactivity, impulsivity, overeating and food related problems and also constructs such as sociability, interest and pleasure, and mood. A manual includes the measures (with some translated into eleven languages), data for specific samples, scoring protocols, information on psychometric properties and description of the purpose of the measures. The assessments have been used in approximately 80 peer reviewed, published research papers.

The manual and the assessments are available online as a PDF for download and use in research and clinical settings. There is no charge for accessing and using the manual and assessments as the Centre want them to be freely available and used without constraint. They do ask that people register before downloading. The reason for this is that they need to demonstrate impact and use of the assessments and this enables them to do so. They also ask that people do not give the manual and assessments to others, even within the same organisation, but instead ask them to register and download themselves. This is process is needed to demonstrate impact.

The manual and assessments can be accessed via this registration page

<https://www.findresources.co.uk/professionals/login>

LINKS TO OTHER NEWSLETTERS:

Council for Disabled Children news:

<https://mailchi.mp/ncb/cdc-summer-digest-1298113?e=59c28d4a77>

Kidz to Adultz magazine:

https://issuu.com/disabledliving/docs/kidz_to_adultz_magazine_nov_19?fr=sNGE3NDEzMzcy&utm_source=Disabled+Living&utm_campaign=7cdf298da8-Kidz+to+Adultz+Magazine22%2F11%2F19+10%3A52+AM&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_538f180eb1-7cdf298da8-387798989

Making Ourselves Heard news:

<https://mailchi.mp/ncb/september-making-ourselves-heard-newsletter-1298057?e=59c28d4a77>

NFER Direct for schools news:

<https://news.nfer.ac.uk/4R3K-9JNR-8310101T75/cr.aspx>

NNPCF and Contact news:

<https://mailchi.mp/cafamily/news-for-parent-carer-forums-from-contact-a-family-and-the-nnpcf-1819065?e=08dbbea055>

RCPCH & Us – news:

<https://dmtrk.net/12S1-6LDQA-65S3W13E61/cr.aspx>
<https://dmtrk.net/12S1-6NJQH-65S3W13E61/cr.aspx>