

Date: 15th June 2026

Learning Disability Week - Learning together to improve care

This week is Learning Disability Week and the theme for 2026 is “Do you see me?”, focusing on ensuring people with a learning disability are seen, heard and valued.

The week provides an opportunity to celebrate inclusion, raise awareness and reflect on how we can continue improving care and experiences for people with a learning disability.

As part of this, colleagues are encouraged to consider findings from [Learning Together](#), a national review exploring the quality of care provided to adults with a learning disability when admitted to hospital. The review gathered information from hospitals and sought feedback from doctors, patients and carers on how care can be improved.



The findings highlighted several important areas where healthcare organisations can make a difference:

- Understanding and using the correct terminology, recognising that a learning disability and a learning difficulty are not the same. The review found these terms were often confused, with one in three patients having the wrong term recorded.
- Making sure a patient’s learning disability is clearly recorded in electronic patient records and clinical notes to support more personalised care.
- Asking patients and carers about reasonable adjustments from the point of admission, helping remove barriers and improve patient experience.
- Supporting patients to be involved in decisions about their care and ensuring assumptions are not made about mental capacity.
- Working alongside carers and specialist learning disability teams to provide the right support throughout a hospital stay and discharge planning.

These messages reinforce the importance of person-centred care and ensuring every patient feels listened to, understood and involved in decisions about their care.

Throughout the week, colleagues can also meet local teams helping to raise awareness and improve experiences for people with a learning disability. Mencap will be in the main foyer on

Monday alongside colleagues from the Safeguarding and Complex Care Team. The Safeguarding and Complex Care Team will also be out and about across the wards during the week with the Quality Bus, so please look out for them and take the opportunity to find out more.

To mark Learning Disability Week, colleagues are also invited to attend a [community event hosted by Wirral Mencap](#).

- Thursday 18th June 2026
- 11am until 2pm
- Hamilton Square, Birkenhead

The event will include drinks, cake and a tombola and offers an opportunity to celebrate Learning Disability Week, connect with local partners and continue conversations around inclusion and improving experiences for people with a learning disability.