

Adults with learning disabilities: supporting workforce development



The NHS Education for Scotland LD Team
Newsletter May 2024

Welcome to our ***Special Edition*** newsletter!

Welcome to this special edition of the Learning Disability team at NES newsletter. Our aim is to support development of the learning disabilities workforce through education and training. In this special issue we are delighted to introduce:

****Essentials of Learning Disability**** ***learning resource***

Essentials of Learning Disability

It's here! The first modules of the [Essentials of Learning Disability](#) resource are now available via Turas Learn [here](#).



What is a Learning Disability?

START COURSE

Essentials of Learning Disability aims to offer a comprehensive introduction for everyone working with or supporting someone with a learning disability. This includes people providing direct care, those working in specialist services, and staff in other services which may be accessed by people with learning disabilities, such as primary and acute health care services. The resource consists of clusters of short learning modules around a range of topics. The learner can select the topics most relevant to their role.

Essentials of Learning Disability

The Essentials of Learning Disabilities

Setting the Scene

What is learning disability?

Learning disability and society

Stigma

Health inequalities

Behaviour perceived as challenging

Supporting People

Communication

Sensory processing

Visual & hearing impairment

Common health conditions

Physical activity

Meaningful activity

Person centred planning

Growing Up and Growing Older

Stepping into adulthood

Grief & Bereavement

What is PBS?

Psychological Wellbeing

Understanding psychological difficulties

What is psychological therapy?

Supporting someone engaged in therapy

This first set of e-learning modules consists of 4 clusters, which grew from a review of existing resources. These are:

- [Setting the Scene](#)
- [Supporting People](#)
- [Growing Up and Growing Older](#)
- [Psychological Wellbeing](#)

The resource is designed to be flexible to meet individual learners' needs. While some elements may be considered essential for everyone, other topics offer more specific learning in key areas. Each module provides accessible and interactive learning, including videos and case studies to encourage reflection. Modules should take between 30-50 minutes to complete depending on the topic.

Topics will continue to be added to build a comprehensive resource around understanding the needs of people with learning disabilities.



The resource is available through our [Once for Scotland: Learning Disabilities](#) page on Turas Learn. Turas Learn supports learning for anyone in Scotland, regardless of profession, background or employer. It's free to access, and everyone with **any** email account can register quickly and easily to access the resources. Click [here](#) to create an account on Turas Learn. Registration is required to access ***Essentials of Learning Disability***.

Official launch event

Essentials of Learning Disability was officially launched during Learning Disability week on 9th May. As well as an overview of the resource, this included an introduction from the Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport, and a presentation from people with learning disabilities highlighting the importance of understanding their needs. You can view a recording of the event [here](#).



The NES LD team would like to thank our NES colleagues Vicky Anderson and Chris Pickering for all their help in designing and building the e-modules. We're sure you'll agree that they look fantastic!

Essentials of Learning Disability Resource



This is the first step in our ambitions for comprehensive learning in key areas affecting people with learning disabilities, to improve the care and support they receive. We will continue to grow the resource in partnership with people with learning disabilities. We hope you will find ***Essentials of Learning Disability*** informative and engaging, and welcome feedback on any aspects of the resource.

The NES LD Team

LearningDisability@nes.scot.nhs.uk