



Accessing the Adult Learning Disability Service

Information for Families of Young People in Transition from Children's Services

The Adult Learning Disability Service is part of the Health and Social Services Department (HSSD). It provides specialist support to adults (aged 18 years and over) with Learning Disabilities in the Bailiwick of Guernsey. Those who are eligible for the service are placed on the Adult Learning Disability Register. This leaflet provides information about who is eligible to be placed on the Register, and how this decision is made for young people.

What is the Adult Learning Disability Register?

The Adult Learning Disability Register is a record of adults with a Learning Disability who meet certain criteria for registration. Being on the register means that a person is eligible to be considered for specialist Learning Disability services in adulthood. *It does not guarantee access to services, which are allocated on a needs led basis.*

Who makes the decision about whether a young person is eligible for The Register?

The decision of whether a young person is suitable for Adult Learning Disability Services is made by The Register Panel. This is a group of professionals from the Adult Learning Disability Team with different clinical skills. They meet every month to decide whether people meet the criteria for the Adult Learning Disability Register.

What are the criteria?

To access these services, the young person needs to be over the age of 18 and have:

- Significant difficulty with intellectual functioning, and
- Significant difficulties with social communication and/or daily living skills,

With evidence that these difficulties started in childhood.

Why can't they be referred straight from Child Services?

The criteria for accessing the Children's Disability Register is not the same as for the Adult LD Register, so a seamless transfer from one to the other is not possible.

How is the decision made?

With your consent, the Register Panel will look at the young person's health records to get background information about them. They will then use this to decide whether they are eligible to join The Adult Learning Disability Register.

What happens next?

If the young person clearly has a Learning Disability, then their parent will be sent a letter inviting them to consent to the young person being placed on the Adult Learning Disability Register.



If the young person does not meet the criteria for the learning disability register, then their parents will be sent a letter to inform them of this decision. Recommendations about different services for the young person will also be given.

If it is not clear whether the young person meets the criteria, the register panel will write to Children's Services for more information.

Depending on the age of the young person, they may be invited to an assessment appointment with their family. This may involve further assessment of their thinking, language, social communication, and daily living skills.

After the assessment, the professionals who completed it will meet with the young person and their family to provide feedback about whether they meet the criteria. If not, recommendations will be made about appropriate alternative services.

Wherever possible, this process will be completed when young people are aged 14 years, to give families and services adequate time to plan for the transition into adulthood. However, there may be circumstances in which this is not possible.

For more information, please contact the Adult Learning Disability Service on 230000.