

## CHECKLIST TO DECIDE WHETHER SOMEONE HAS A LEARNING DISABILITY:

### 1. **Basic ability (Yes to one of these questions)**

- Does the person appear to have difficulties with learning, thinking and understanding?
- Is the person having difficulties understanding new or complex information or learning new skills?

Factors that are likely to indicate the person does **not** have a learning disability:

- The person has a driving licence or has gained qualifications such as GCSE's and O levels

### 2. **Onset before the age of 18: ('Yes' to one of these questions)**

- Were these difficulties with learning identified during childhood?
- Did the person attend a special school?
- Did the person attend a mainstream school with additional support/statement?

### 3. **Ability to cope with everyday life (No to 2 or more of these questions)**

Does the person have difficulty with the following?

- Communication:** is the person able to understand other people and get information across?
- Self care:** is the person able to manage own personal hygiene, dressing, toileting without assistance?
- Daily living skills:** is the person able to maintain a clean and safe home, provide and cook food without assistance?
- Use of community facilities:** is the person able to get him or herself around the local area without assistance, including use of public transport, shops, post office?
- Numeracy & Literacy:** is the person able to read or use signs & instructions, manage their money and budgeting to get by in daily life?
- Self-direction:** is the person able to make plans, choices and see things through for example following a course of treatment or medication?
- Social skills:** is the person able to follow the acceptable cues and norms and generally get on with people in social situations?
- Risk:** does the person understand the concept of danger and how to keep him or herself healthy and safe?
- Work and occupation:** Does the person make use of their time and have meaningful occupation or work?

(From Strategic Health Facilitators Kathryn Joseph and Sharon Wood from Northamptonshire Teaching Primary Care Trust)

## SPECIALIST SERVICES FOR ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITY

- Hearing problems** (not obviously wax):

Severe Learning (SL) Clinic, Nottingham Audiology Services, Ropewalk House, 113 The Ropewalk  
Nottingham NG1 6HA Tel: 0115 919 4488 Written referral posted or faxed: 0115 948 5515

- Dental problems:** First attempt to have assessment by normal community dentist

If tried this and need extra support/ GA can refer to Special Needs Dentistry

[www.nottspct.nhs.uk](http://www.nottspct.nhs.uk) (My NHS Services-> Community Services-> Special Needs Dentistry (Referral form))

- Specialist Epilepsy clinic:** Sarah Pashley Specialist Epilepsy Nurse, Highbury Hospital or Dr O'Donoghue's secretary QMC Tel 0115 8542248
- Notts Healthcare Trust Learning Disability services for adults: (Psychology, Psychiatry, Speech&Language)**

<http://www.nottinghamshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/our-services/local-services/learning-disability-services/>

Referrals via Single point of access as with all mental health services

- Social Services including contact details for Community Learning Disability Teams** on Notts County and Nottingham City Council websites
- Health Facilitators:** Mansfield/Ashfield, Gemma Del Toro 01623 672 183
- Hospital LD Liaison Nurses:** NUH George Badiali 0115 9249924 extension: 62562.  
Kings Mill & Newark Hospitals: Claire Henley 01623 622515 Ext 6091 [claire.henley@sfh-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:claire.henley@sfh-tr.nhs.uk) (Copy her into consultant referrals and she'll liaise to improve patient's journey)