

## Systematic Review

### [Parent training for families of autistic children: systematic review demonstrates benefits](#)

Summary of a systematic review exploring the effectiveness of parent training for children with autism spectrum disorder.

## Studies

### [Anorexia before or during pregnancy linked to having a child with autism](#)

A Swedish nationwide cohort study found that people with anorexia nervosa before or during pregnancy have an increased chance of having a child with autism or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

### [How did the pandemic affect autistic adults?](#)

A [study](#), published in the journal Autism, set out to investigate how the mental health of autistic adults in the UK changed during the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic.

## Briefings

### [Autism – overview of policy and services - House of Commons Library](#)

This briefing provides an overview of policies and services for people with autism spectrum disorder in England.

### [Liberty Protection Safeguards \(LPS\): Latest developments](#)

This briefing for health and social care staff provides an overview of the Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS), which will replace the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS). It summarises LPS and describes what is going to change, what is going to stay the same, and what health and social care staff can do to prepare for the changes. The briefing will be particularly useful to frontline health and social care practitioners working with people with cognitive impairment and will also be of value to commissioners, providers and managers.

## Report

### [Government must improve Online Safety Bill](#)

[Research has shown](#) that online disability hate crime is on the rise, and in October 2021, it was up by 52% compared to the previous year. The report acknowledges that more needs to be done to protect people with disabilities and those in other marginalised groups who are disproportionately affected by online hate speech.

## Statistics

### [Disabled people disproportionately affected by pandemic](#)

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has published its latest analysis of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on disabled people in Great Britain. The [data from December 2021](#) reveals that while fewer disabled people are worried about the impact of Covid-19 on their life now (72%) compared to earlier points in that pandemic (91% in March 2020), they are still more likely to be worried than non-disabled people (64%).

## Survey

### [Nine in 10 unpaid carers feel ignored by the government](#)

A survey of more than 1,550 unpaid carers in the UK provides alarming evidence of a “deep-rooted failure” by successive governments to understand and support unpaid carers, according to Carers Trust. The survey findings, which are published in the [Pushed to the Edge](#) report, found that roughly nine in 10 (91%) unpaid family carers feel ignored by the Government, with a similar number (84%) saying they do not have confidence in the government's ability to improve their lives.

## News

### [£48 million for short breaks and supported internships](#)

The government has announced £30 million of funding for additional short breaks for families with disabled children as part of its Levelling Up strategy.

### [People with a learning disability and elective treatment](#)

The government has set out a new blueprint to tackle the Covid-19 care backlog with campaigners calling for hospital trusts to prioritise people with a learning disability for elective treatment. The new [‘Delivery plan for tackling the COVID-19 backlog of elective care’](#) aims to give patients greater control over their own health and offer greater choice of where to get care if they are waiting too long for treatment.

### [Calls for Ministers to make apprenticeships more accessible](#)

The learning disability charity Mencap is calling for the Department of Education to rethink their current regulations around apprenticeships to allow thousands of people with learning disabilities and difficulties (LDD) to access more apprenticeships. The [Accessible Apprenticeships Report](#), which is published as part of National Apprenticeship Week, suggests that Ministers makes a “subtle change” to an existing policy which would allow for greater flexibility to entry requirements.

### [Mothers with learning disabilities and infant feeding choice](#)

Mothers with learning disabilities should be offered tailored support with infant feeding, including accessible resources, according to new research. The scoping review published in [Maternal and Child Nutrition](#) found that women with a learning disability face many challenges during the perinatal period including preparing for and establishing infant feeding.

### [Searching for the biology behind autism's sex bias](#)

An exploration of the male predominance of autism diagnoses. Several studies put that [sex ratio](#) at about 3 to 1.