

Introduction

- Learning Disability Service has a range of services. We help people who are 18 years old or over with a learning disability and their families and carers.
- We aim to help people become as independent as possible by offering advice, assessment, practical support and therapies.
- We can also direct you to other services for People with a Learning Disability and the service works with a range of local partners to provide the best support possible.
- Our aim is to make sure that everyone leads a healthy, independent and safe life.

Learning Disability (LD)

What is a learning disability?

- People with learning disabilities can have difficulties with everyday tasks such as household chores, managing money and communicating and interacting with others.
- This affects someone for their whole life.
- People with a learning disability tend to take longer to learn and may need support to develop new skills, understand complicated information and interact with other people.



The Merton Integrated Learning Disability Team

- The Merton Integrated Learning Disability Team is a multi-disciplinary community team of professionals dedicated to providing support and advice for adults with a learning disability.
- The team aims to support people, so that they can take part in community and specialist services and lead healthy and happy lives. Everyone in the team works together with peoples' strengths to help them become as independent as possible.
- The team have a wide variety of professional expertise which includes:
 - Occupational Therapists
 - Clinical Psychologists
 - Positive Behaviour Support Specialist
 - Speech and Language Therapists
 - Community Learning Disability Nurses
 - Physiotherapists
 - Social Workers
 - Social Work Assistants

Occupational therapy

Help people take part in daily activities that keep them healthy and active. They help make everyday tasks easier.

Help you think about what is important to you, what is challenging and how you can do it differently. This may be through developing new skills or practicing current ones.

Help you to:

- Look after yourself
- Look after your home
- Take part in activities you enjoy
- Get out and keep safe in your community
- Manage your finances



Physiotherapy

The Learning Disability Physiotherapist provides specialist assessment and treatment to adults with a learning disability whose needs cannot be met by mainstream services.

Our Physiotherapist works closely with the person, their family and their network of care to enhance and maintain a person's physical presentation, function and quality of life.

Physiotherapy sessions can take place in a variety of settings. These can be individual and/or group sessions and can be at a person's home; within Jan Malinowski Day Centre (JMC); work places; respite facilities; leisure centres and hydrotherapy pools.

They offer a range of services, including 24 hour postural management programmes; advice regarding positioning and orthotics; walking assessment and balance exercise programmes; falls prevention advice and education; referral to hydrotherapy; and joint therapy led sessions with wheelchair services.



Psychology and Behaviour Support

Our Psychologists help people to explore the feelings and thoughts that bother them, to find fresh perspectives and solutions to daily challenges.

Sometimes we work directly with a person on a one-to-one basis and sometimes we work with the family or carers as well.

The team also offer behaviour support, to help families and staff teams understand someone's behaviour, if it is of concern. By working together, we use this understanding to develop strategies to help the person shape their behaviour for the better.



Speech and Language Therapist (SALT)

Speech and language therapists help people to communicate better with the individuals in their daily lives. They provide visual support, communication aids, strategies and training to help make every interaction meaningful and relevant.

At Merton Integrated Learning Disability Team, our Speech and Language Therapists help you get your message across as clearly and easily as possible.

We can work with you to develop new skills and help you adapt the environment in which you communicate. We also provide training to help others to support your communication.

There is also a specialist team of Speech and Language Therapists who help people that have eating, drinking and swallowing difficulties (dysphagia).



Social Work Team

Social workers provide advice and carry out assessments under the Care Act. To find out more about the Care Act (2014), please visit [Care Act \(2014\)](#).

Social Workers plan and arrange care and support plans for adults with learning disabilities, families and carers. They also make arrangements to review the support plans annually.

Social workers will support individuals to access services such as day care, respite, employment support. Social Workers are supported by Social Work Assistants, who undertake reviews and help to arrange support when necessary. Social Workers support and safeguard people to ensure their safety and well-being needs in the community are met.

Community Learning Disability Nurse

- Community Nurses support people to ensure their health care needs are met. We can help you to access your GP and get you referred to the right health specialist or service.
- Help people manage their health care, so they can stay well. We can help you access a healthcare passport and ensure you receive your annual health check. We work jointly with other professionals to ensure reasonable adjustments are made for an individual's needs.



How we support carers

- If you care for someone with a learning disability, you may be eligible for an assessment of your own needs as a carer under the Care (Act 2014).
- You can also make a referral by contacting us via our referral form. Carers assessments and reviews are provided either by a member of the team or by referral to Carers Support Merton who provide assessments and reviews on behalf of the Council.
- There is also lots of useful carers' information and support on our Carers page.
- Will I be expected to pay for care and support?

Each person who receives support will be given a financial assessment to see what they can contribute towards their own care financially - for more information about financial assessments and care charges please visit our Financial Assessment page.

Services we offer

- **Day centres**
- **Employment advice**
- **Staying independent at home**
- **Long-term Care**
- **Residential care-** can provide long-term accommodation when illness, disability or frailty makes living independently difficult or impossible.
- **Merton Supported Living Service-** Supported living is for people with a learning disability, physical disability or mental health diagnosis who want to live as independently as possible. Our supported Living Service operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

How to make a referral

We accept referrals from people with a learning disability, carers, family members, advocates, health professionals, GPs or voluntary sector partners. Referral forms can be sent by post, or emailed to LD.Admin@merton.gov.uk

You can call us on **020 8545 4552** if you have any queries regarding a referral.

Before moving to my colleague



Overall Aim of Adult Social Care:

The aim of Adult Services is to promote Merton residents independence with an efficient and effective response to their social care needs, and achieving the following priority goals;

- ☐ Promote independence to prevent, reduce, delay needs from increasing.
- ☐ To enable people to remain in their own homes wherever possible.
- ☐ To support people to assess their needs in line with statute and guidance.
- ☐ To enable people to have appropriate access to personalised care solutions via care and support plans and personal budgets.
- ☐ To support people in reviewing the quality and effectiveness of their support.

Aim of the Transition Social Workers:

The transition social workers support people between 16 and 25* years of age with severe and complex needs and disabilities making the transition to adulthood.

We work with:

Special Educational Needs (SEN), Children's Social Care, Adult Social Care, Schools and Colleges, Voluntary Organisations, Health, Benefits, Merton Employment Team, Housing Needs.

* The social workers will support young people up until the point at which their care and support plan is stable which could be before age 25.

What we do:

Transition Planning:

- Attend monthly Pupil Welfare group at Perseid School
- Attend careers evenings
- Co-ordinate Preparation for Adulthood Fair (Transition Fair)
- Attend Tripartite Panel
- Regular meetings with SENDIS managers
- (Transition Partnership Board and Your Shout Group)

Age 16-18:

- Joint work with Children's social care and/or SEN officers (ex. home visits), to get to know young person, gather information to help plan transition.
- Attend Looked after Children (LAC) Reviews
- Liaise with other professionals who may be involved(for example health).
- Attend school/college reviews where appropriate.
- Offer advice and information about adult social care and eligibility.

What we do:

Just before age 18:

- Support the young person and their family to complete a Care Act Assessment and a care and support plan
- Mental Capacity Act assessments(in partnership with other professionals where applicable)
- Refer for a financial assessment to determine assessed contribution.
- Help plan for the young person's future when they leave school - subject to National Eligibility Criteria
- Make sure that the young person and their parents'/carers' views are heard
- Link closely with health professionals in the Learning Disability Team
- Offer a carer's assessment

Post 18:

- Implement Care and Support Plan for the young person
- Review Care and Support Plan
- Review Carers Assessment
- Contribute to EHC Plan where applicable
- Safeguarding and deprivation of liberty safeguards (DoLS)
- Court of Protection work where applicable

Eligibility determination: adult with care and support needs

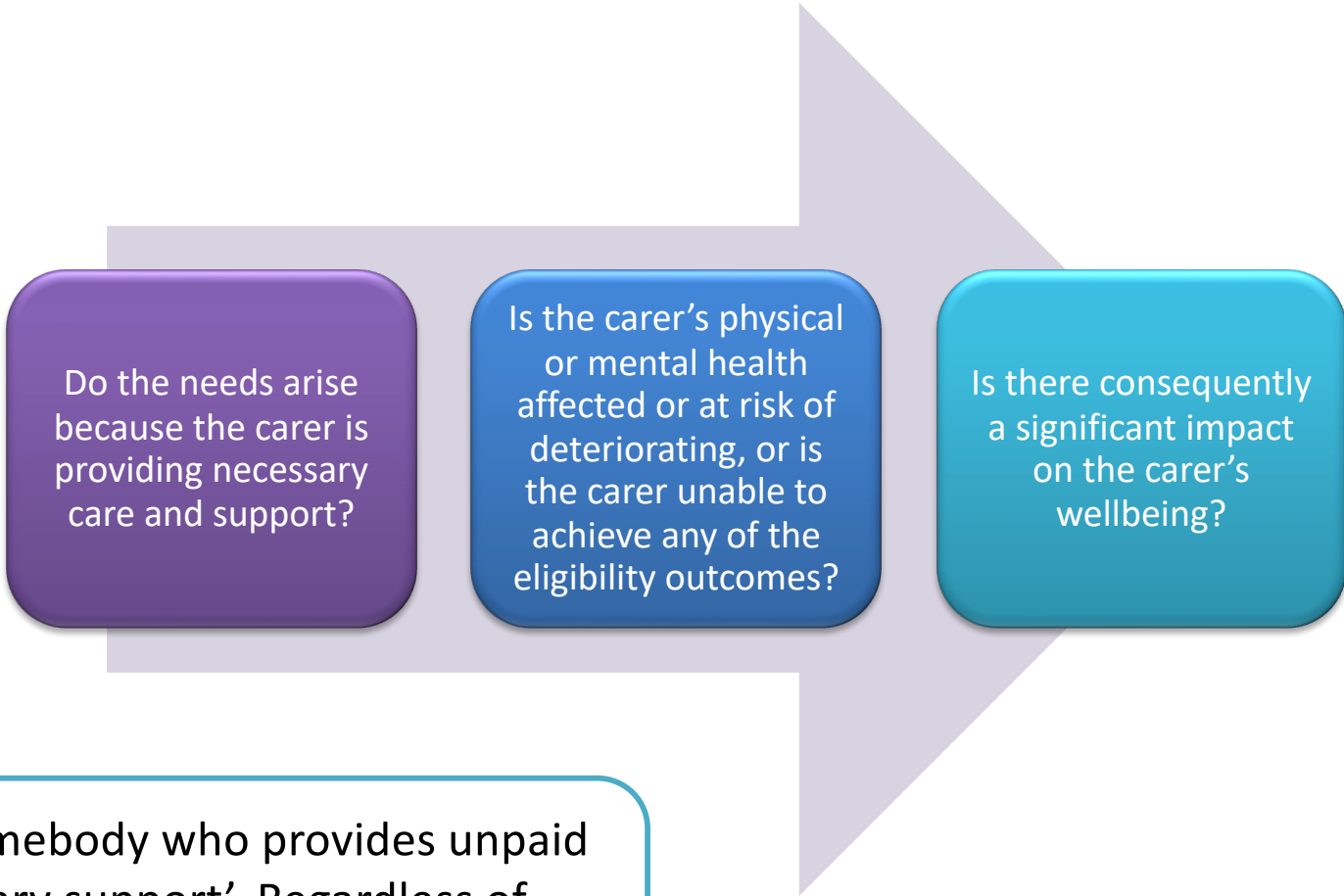
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Do the needs arise from a physical or mental impairment or illness?

Do these needs mean the adult is unable to achieve two or more of the eligibility outcomes?

Is there consequently a significant impact on the adult's wellbeing?

Eligibility determination: carer with support needs



Do the needs arise because the carer is providing necessary care and support?

Is the carer's physical or mental health affected or at risk of deteriorating, or is the carer unable to achieve any of the eligibility outcomes?

Is there consequently a significant impact on the carer's wellbeing?

Carer: 'somebody who provides unpaid necessary support'. Regardless of whether the 'cared for person' is eligible or not or even known to LA or not

Eligibility Outcomes

Adult

- Manage and maintain nutrition
- Maintain personal hygiene
- Manage toilet needs
- Being appropriately clothed
- Be able to make use of adult's home safely
- Maintain a habitable home environment
- Develop/maintain family and other personal relationships
- Access/engage in work, training, education or volunteering
- Make use of community services
- Carry out caring responsibilities for a child

Adult Carer

- Carry out caring responsibilities for a child
- Provide care to other people in carer role
- Maintain a habitable home environment in carer's home
- Manage and maintain nutrition
- Develop/maintain family and other personal relationships
- Engage in work, training, education or volunteering
- Make use of community services
- Engage in recreational activities

Care and Support Planning:

A young person's care and support plan will change when they are going through transition as the services and support they receive changes (for example term-time and non term-time support whilst in education).

A Care and Support Plan will include:

- The person's eligible needs
- How their eligible needs will be met:
 - Which needs are being met by informal carer/s
 - Which needs are being met by wider community (e.g. voluntary and faith sector, education, universal services)
 - Which needs are being met by a personal budget (e.g. direct payment)
- Information and Advice about how to prevent, reduce and delay your needs from increasing
- Other funding including Continuing Health Care