

Consent and capacity



Consent is being asked if you agree to something.

This means saying **yes** or **no**.

Sometimes we have to make very big choices like:

- Do I want to live in this house?
- Should I have an operation at hospital?

Capacity is whether you understand the choice you need to make.

The law says that everyone over 18 years old can make their own choices unless we find out they can't.

We must work hard to help people understand their choices before we say they don't understand.

- Ensure hospital staff are aware of the individual needs of patients with learning disabilities
- Check consent and mental capacity issues are considered
- Check reasonable adjustments are made
- Provide learning disability awareness training to hospital staff

Do you have a learning disability and need support during your visit to hospital?



Contact the Learning Disability Liaison Nurse Team on:

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LEARNING DISABILITY LIAISON NURSE TEAM

	<p>The Team is:</p> <p>Adults: Heather Woollard</p> <p>Children: Alison Dean</p>
 	<p>We work across:</p> <p>Queen's Hospital, Romford</p> <p>King George Hospital, Goodmayes</p>
	<p>We work:</p> <p>9.00am to 5.00pm</p> <p>Monday to Friday</p>
	<p>Our aim is:</p> <p>To work with staff at our hospitals to support the delivery of safe and equitable healthcare for patients with learning disabilities</p>

 	<p>What we do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support patients with learning disabilities during hospital visits or stays • Listen to, respect, and involve families and carers • Help patients with learning disabilities understand their healthcare and treatment • Promote the use of Hospital Passports • Ensure learning disability alerts are in place • Promote the use of easy-read information and Hospital Communication Books
