



Definition of learning disabilities in the IncludeAge Project

Learning disabilities, also called intellectual disabilities, refers to people who do not fit societally defined expectations regarding intellectual, behavioural and social functioning.

People with learning disabilities need support in their everyday lives. This support is likely to last throughout their lifetime. People with learning disabilities account for around 1.5 million people in the UK.

Learning disabilities are also diagnostically defined as *‘a significantly reduced ability to understand new or complex information, to learn new skills (impaired intelligence), with a reduced ability to cope independently (impaired social functioning), which started before adulthood’* (Public Health England, 2023).

References

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