



Research priorities for learning difficulties

Information Sheet for children and young people with learning difficulties

What is the Research Priorities for Learning Difficulties Project?

The Salvesen Mindroom Centre and the University of Edinburgh are working together on research into learning difficulties. Through this project they want to find out what research into learning difficulties is important to you. This will help tell people what the most important research is that should be being done.

As part of the project we'd like you to fill in a survey if you are a child or young person who has learning difficulties.

There is also a survey for other people to fill in. These people are

- adults who had learning difficulties as a child
- your parents and/or carers
- people who work with you such as teachers, speech and language therapists, and doctors

We want to find out their views too.

What will the survey ask?

The survey will list 40 research questions about learning difficulties. It will ask you to pick the 10 research questions, from the list, that are most important to you.

It's up to you which you choose. Your questions will help us to decide what research The Salvesen Mindroom Centre should be doing.

The survey will also ask some information about you such as your age etc. It is up to you whether you want to answer these questions.

The 40 questions have come from the results of a survey we did last summer. We asked people to tell us the research questions they wanted to ask. The people who took part included

- people who have learning difficulties,
- their parents and/or carers
- people who work with children and young people with learning difficulties such as teachers and doctors.



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What do you mean by learning difficulty?

There are lots of different types of learning difficulties. On a day-to-day basis that can mean many things, including struggling with

- reading, writing or numeracy
- listening, talking and understanding
- staying focused on my work
- remembering what I have just learnt or been told
- controlling my actions and not being impulsive
- mixing with other people and making friends
- feeling good about myself and my abilities

You might not have a diagnosis, but, if you do have a diagnosis, it might be

- dyspraxia
- dyslexia
- dyscalculia
- dysgraphia
- autism spectrum disorder(ASD)
- Down's syndrome
- attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- fragile X syndrome
- speech and language difficulties
- foetal alcohol syndrome
- Tourette's syndrome

Your diagnosis may also have another name or be explained in another way.

What do I do?

If you want to take part, go online to fill in the survey at the address below or fill in a paper survey form. You might want to talk to an adult you know well about your ideas. They might help you fill in the survey.

What happens next?

When we get the survey responses we will make a list of the 20 most popular questions out of the 40. We will use this list at a workshop that will involve people like you, and their parents or carers, and the people working alongside them such as teachers and doctors. In this workshop these people help work out what the most important ten questions are.



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Once we have the list of top ten questions/research priorities we will tell everyone who took part in our surveys and said we could contact them.

Can I take part in the workshop?

If you would like to be at the workshop, on the survey please answer 'Yes' to the question in section C and in the answer tell us your name and email address or home address. Unfortunately not everyone who would like to be at the workshop will be able to be there as we only have a set number of spaces for people. We will email or write to you if we are able to invite you to the workshop.

The workshop will be on Monday 11th June between 10am and 4pm in the centre of Edinburgh. If we invite you, we will pay for the cost of your travel and we will also pay for a hotel if you live away from Edinburgh and it is too far for you to travel on the morning of Monday 11th to arrive before 10am.

Further information

If you have any questions, please contact

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Write:

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The Process

