

## **Acute Learning Disability Liaison Nurse.**

### **Role:-**

- To provide Reasonable Adjustments for those who have a learning disability to enable them to access the hospital for either planned or unplanned appointments or admission.
- To provide Capacity Assessments and Best Interest support for hospital staff.

The role is provided across all of the York Teaching Hospitals including York, Scarborough, Malton, Bridlington, Easingwold and Selby.

### **Justification for the provision of Reasonable Adjustments:-**

The Equality Act (2010) legislates that all public services must provide reasonable adjustments to enable equal access for people with disabilities.

### **Criteria for referral:-**

That the individual being referred for support has a recognised learning disability.

Definition of a learning disability:-

Learning disability as defined by the British Psychological Society and endorsed by the White Paper 'Valuing People', is in three parts:-

- The individual will have significant impairment of mental functioning (i.e. full scale IQ is 69 or less).
- The individual will have significant impairment of adaptive/social functioning in at least 2 areas (e.g. needs help to survive – eating / drinking / washing / toileting / social problem solving / social reasoning etc).
- The individual will have onset of their learning disability before 18 (and usually at birth or in earlier childhood).

All three parts of the criteria should be met in order for a person to be said to have a learning disability.

## **Examples of Reasonable Adjustments that can be provided:-**

- Reserved parking / meet and greet
- Quiet waiting area
- Change to appointment time (first on list)
- Support in appointment (managing anxieties, support with communication etc)
- Sedation / pre-med (GP or liaison with anaesthetists)
- Familiarisation (equipment / visits)
- Support carers
- Coordinate appointment / plan with all professionals involved
- Liaison with family, carers external agencies regarding current inpatients. (discussing current treatment, exploring baseline assessments etc)
- Discharge planning
- Advice to nursing and medical staff

## **How to refer:-**

**Complete the referral form and email to [Jo.blades@nhs.net](mailto:Jo.blades@nhs.net)  
Contact by phone – 07795126473**

York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
Safeguarding Adults Team  
Malton Hospital  
Middlecave Road,  
Malton,  
YO17 7NG

**To enable successful access of appointments please complete the referral to the Learning Disability Liaison Nurse at the same time that a referral is made to a department within the hospital.**