# Social Issues in Healthcare

## Learning Disabilities

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<th>Credit Value of Unit 3</th>
<th>GRADED</th>
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### Learning Outcomes

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<th>The student should be able to</th>
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<td>The student can</td>
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1. **Understand the nature of learning disabilities**
   - 1.1 Explain what is meant by a learning disability
   - 1.2 Identify causes of learning disabilities
   - 1.3 Compare and contrast the medical and social models of disability

2. **Understand empowerment and active participation when supporting individuals with learning disabilities**
   - 2.1 Explain what is meant by the terms empowerment and active participation
   - 2.2 Analyse the role of advocates
   - 2.3 Evaluate different types of advocacy
   - 2.4 Describe how to implement empowerment and active participation when supporting individuals with learning disabilities

### Assessment Methodology

A 1000 – 1500 word case study or assignment.

### Grading of this unit

The following grade descriptors will be applied to the assessment of this unit:

1. Understanding of the subject
2. Application of Knowledge
5. Communication and Presentation
7. Quality

Please refer to the QAA Grade Descriptors for detail of the components of each descriptor.

### Indicative Content

Please note that the indicative content supplied below is intended as a suggested guide only. It is not meant to be a prescriptive, exhaustive or fully delivered content list.

- **Understand the legislation and policies that support individuals with learning disabilities**
- **Identify legislation and policies e.g.:** \[\text{Equality Act 2010; Disability Equality Duty 2006; Human Rights Act 1998; organisational policies and procedures}\]
- **The impact of legislation and policies e.g.:** empowerment; choice; opportunities; participation; engagement; assessment; inclusion; development

- **Understand the nature of learning disabilities**

  Learning disability means: ‘significantly reduced ability to understand new or complex information, to learn new skills, reduced ability to cope independently which starts before adulthood with lasting effects on development.’


- **Causes of learning disabilities:** before birth; during birth; during delivery; after birth; environmental; genetic/chromosomal factors; unknown factors

- **The medical and social models of disability:** illness/disability centred; person centred; inclusive; community; treatment
Understand empowerment and active participation when supporting individuals with learning disabilities.

The term—empowerment person-centred, support, self-advocacy, control, preferences, choices, active participation—daily living, promoting independence, development, providing support.

The role of advocates e.g.: promotion of rights, speaking up, a voice, accessing services, exploring choices, risk management, independence.

Types of advocacy: self-advocacy, peer advocacy, case advocacy, paid independent advocacy, statutory advocacy, citizen advocacy.

How to implement empowerment and active participation e.g.: integration, involvement, effective communication, promoting independence, providing support, control, advocacy, self-determination, independence.

Understand how to promote communication with individuals with learning disabilities.

Barriers to communication e.g.: environment, understanding, terminology, ability, well-being, interference, staff abilities, sensory abilities.

Ways of adapting communication e.g.: language, body language, signs and symbols, technological aids, active listening, adaptations, Braille, signing, use of terminology, Makaton, pictures, training, privacy, space.