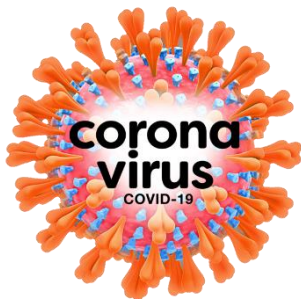


Media, Communications, and people with learning disabilities and autism

About the study



This study was on people with learning disabilities and autism.



It was about what information they had on Covid.



This study was by Dr Alison Wilde.



This is an Easy Read report of the study.



The study started in January 2022.



34 people were interviewed face to face.



100 people answered questions online.

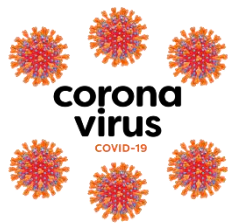


They were asked about where they got information about Covid from.



This is a report about what they said.

What people said



The Covid pandemic started in 2020



A lot of people with learning disabilities and autism found it hard to manage.

They found it hard because:



- Lots of information was hard to understand



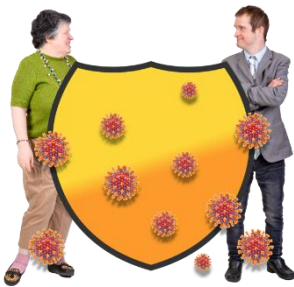
- Lots of services stopped supporting people



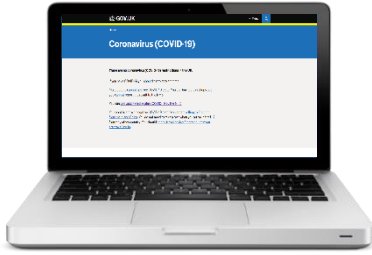
- People couldn't see their friends



- It was harder for people to manage their money.



- Some people had other health issues and had to shield.



A lot of information about Covid was online.



A lot of information about Covid was hard to understand.



Lots of services helped people over the phone and online.



Some people with learning disabilities and autism found it hard to get online.

This meant it was harder to:



- Learn how to be safe from Covid.



- Get help from family and friends.



- Get help from services.



- Talk about problems.



Some people with learning disabilities and autism found it easier to manage.

They found it easier because:



- They had help off their family and friends



- They had help from services that stayed open



- Services worked with them to find out what support and information they needed

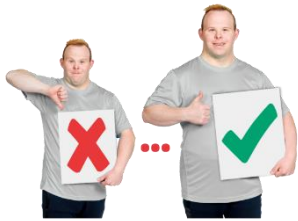


- They had information they could understand about Covid



- They had enough money

What needs to change



To help people with learning disabilities and autism, things need to change.



Information needs to:



- Be easy to understand



- Be given in different ways so everyone can understand



Politicians and the media need to:



- Give clear information



- Work together with services that support people with people with learning disabilities and autism



This is so people have the right information they need to stay happy and healthy



People who worked together with their support felt safer and happier.



Support services need:



- To work with the people they support in difficult times



- More funding and resources to do this



People with lived experienced made this Easy Read report with LD:NorthEast.