

For Health Professionals:

From February 2019 people with a learning disability aged 14+ will be presenting these to you at the beginning of the appointment they are attending.

**Health Passports are seen as
“best practice” within the NHS.**

Health Passports improve the access of healthcare for people with a learning disability. They make it easier for people to use the health services. They help people to maintain their own health.

Many people with a learning disability are unable to describe their feelings or pain, a Health Passport can be used as a tool to assist communication.



Everyone with a learning disability in West Berkshire and Reading aged 14 and over is entitled to a free copy of the Health Passport



Contact:

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Health Passport



This is a new project being launched in Reading to help people **aged 14+** with a learning disability use the health services they want and to help Health Professionals meet the needs of everyone.

Registered Charity Number 093732

Company Number 4279266

People with a learning disability said:

"I find it reassuring as when I go to the doctor, I get anxious."

"It's a good idea for people who live independently and have to go to appointments on their own."

"I get nervous going to the doctors as I often have to see someone different who doesn't know me. If I take my Health Passport it helps them to understand me better."

"Sometimes staff can't support you at Health appointments that's why you need a health Passport."

"It makes a difference because when they look at it, they know what they are dealing with."



People with a learning disability have helped to make the Health Passport.

It is a personal file that should be taken each time you visit the doctor, hospital or other health professionals so that they can get to know you and provide a service that is right for you.



Doctors and nurses said:

"It is great to know that people are using Health Passports."

"They are really valuable."

"They are a brilliant and simple idea."

"Health Passports are invaluable in a hospital setting."

"Everyone should understand how to use the Health Passport."

"Staff need to be reminded to ask for a Health Passport as they are so useful."

"The Health Passport really improves the service we are delivering."

"It is a really useful tool for communication."

