



The Disability Rights UK newsletter co-edited with and for young people

Stay informed with news and information on your journey through education, training and work

Getting it Right for Disabled Apprentices

Our report highlights a series of ideas for improving support to Disabled apprentices, including being proactive about conversations about impairments and health conditions, and better processes for getting help from the government's Access to Work scheme.

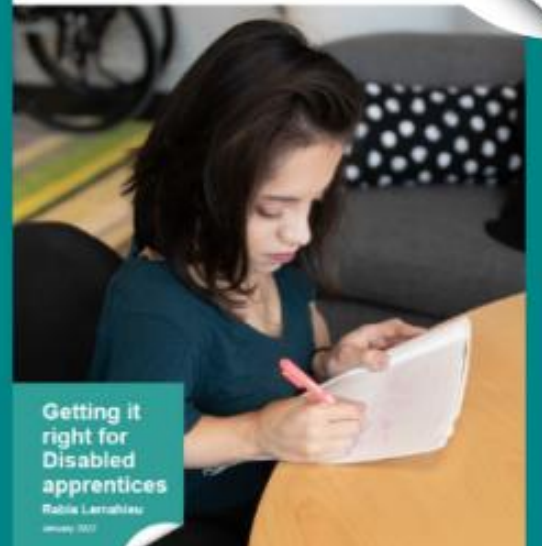
Get a copy of the report [here](#).

An Easy Read summary and word version of the report is available [here](#).

Watch a video of the apprentices [here](#).

Getting it right for Disabled Apprentices

Our new report highlights the benefits of apprenticeships for young Disabled people looking to develop their careers



Getting it right for Disabled apprentices
Rabia Larrachia
January 2022

Free Courses for Jobs

If you are aged 19+ and do not already have a level 3 qualification (equivalent to A levels or an advanced technical diploma) you can choose from over 400 free courses to help you boost your earnings or get a better job.

These courses are also available to you if you are unemployed or you earn below the National Living Wage annually (£18,525) - even if you already have a level 3 qualification.

Courses link to a large range of sectors, including accounting, digital, health and social care, construction, early years, catering, agriculture and more.

For more information, go to: [Skills for Life](#)

Shaw Trust and PurpleSpace Disability Power 100 bursary scheme

The bursary scheme provides funding for 15 people to have access to a place on a new 18 month leadership development programme, offering access to PurpleSpace Leadership Learning and Resources for high potential and/or emerging Employee Resource Groups to take a leading role to enhance employee experience based on a shared characteristic experience or goal.

The scheme enables bursary holders to build purposeful networks and resource groups, provides a space to debate and understand the characteristics of great leadership. Not only that, the scheme will provide access to PurpleSpace events/webinars/podcasts and a wealth of resources and toolkits. It will also provide automatic association with #PurpleLightUp.

To apply or find out more, email: bursary@shaw-trust.org.uk

Volvo Work Experience Day at Daventry Hill School

By Enya

On Friday the 28th of January 2022, Post -16 hosted our first event since Coronavirus.

We welcomed the staff from Volvo with a warm welcome and had fun getting to know each other a bit more as we played some games.

They also had their own activity which involved writing down different job roles within engineering and Volvo on post it notes; sticking them on their car.



After playing a few games it was time for lunch everything was handmade by us, we made food for people with different dietary requirements too.

We also had ten students join us from secondary Year 11 and everyone all thought the day was a big success.

Take part in the consultation on the Mental Capacity Act Code of Practice

The government is updating the Mental Capacity Act Code of Practice and considering a new system of safeguards – the Liberty Protection Safeguards. This new system will replace the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

They want to know what you think about the new system they have designed. In addition to the **main consultation**, you can find out more about the changes they want to make by following this link to our Easy Read Consultation page: **Changes to the law and guidance about making your own decisions (easy read) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)**.

The government understands that not everyone will want to tell it what they think about its plans by responding to the consultation survey. The government will therefore be holding a number of online events where people with lived experience of the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and the Mental Capacity Act will have the opportunity to tell the government what they think about the Liberty Protection Safeguards and what this might mean for them.

The government expects that each event will be held online and will be roughly two and half hours long, with half an hour for breaks. The events will be run by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and led by Hilary Paxton who has previously led events for people with lived experience about the Liberty Protection Safeguards.

If you or someone else that you know would like to attend one of these events, please fill in and submit this **form**.

This consultation seeks views on proposed changes to the Mental Capacity Act 2005 Code of Practice and implementation of the Liberty Protection Safeguards.

This consultation closes at 11:45pm on 7 July 2022

Rose Alying Ellis

By Enya

Rose Lucinda Ayling-Ellis is a British actress. She is known for portraying the role of Frankie Lewis in the BBC soap opera EastEnders.

From September 2021 Rose Alying Ellis along with professional Giovanni Pernice was taking part in Strictly Come Dancing. She is also the first ever deaf dancer on the show.

Deaf people all around the world are inspired by her enchanting performances and how she makes the most out of her disability.

Forestry Commission launches ground-breaking apprenticeship programme for the forestry sector

First-of-its-kind opportunity offers an exciting career pathway into the forestry sector for people from all backgrounds and abilities.

The Development Woodland Officer programme offers a three-year, paid development opportunity for passionate individuals looking to kickstart their careers in forestry.



Jointly led by the Forestry Commission, the University of Cumbria and the Institute of Chartered Foresters, the programme marks the first time that a degree-level forestry apprenticeship has been offered in the UK.

The initiative aims to grow, upskill, and diversify the forestry sector workforce. Expanding long-term workforce capacity will help to deliver the Government's tree planting and woodland creation ambitions over the coming years as we build back greener.

Upon completion of the programme, successful graduates will earn a Professional Forester Apprenticeship (equivalent to Level 6), a BSc (Hons) in Forest Management and the potential to gain Chartered Forester status with the Institute of Chartered Foresters.

[Forestry Commission launches ground-breaking apprenticeship programme for the forestry sector - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Multiplying maths skills for adults

Adults looking to improve their numeracy skills are set to benefit from a £270 million investment in new courses, helping to level up opportunities for more people to progress and get good, well-paid jobs.

Multiply will offer adults who do not already have a GCSE grade C/4 or higher in Maths or equivalent, and need to improve their numeracy, free flexible courses that fit around their lives. Courses are expected to be available this autumn in person or online, at work or at home, and either on a part time or intensive basis. These courses will equip adults across the UK with the numeracy skills they need to fulfil their potential.

[Multiplying maths skills for adults - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Miniature Garden

By Caroline



I not only photograph miniatures but create tiny scenes too. This is my recent project, a miniature garden on my bedroom shelf. I design my idea by sketching it out, then sourcing all my pieces second-hand or making them myself.

The garden path is made from cardboard packaging and paper shapes and the garden wall is made from a piece of cardboard box.

With my Asperger's I love to add lots of colour, this is achieved through my use of flowers which ties into my love of nature. My animals bringing the garden to life, from my tiny deer to my tiny cat Luna curled up on her chair, even a bee-eater on my beehive and the doves in their dove cote.

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Inside the Victorian conservatory I took a writer's desk and turned it into a writer's retreat, the old photograph creating a story.

That's the most important thing with miniatures that each object has an ability to tell a story that you create in your mind



I upholstered the chair cushion by hand with my mum. She is teaching me to sew so I can upholster miniature furniture. Even the tile floor sheet I had to cut to shape.

The oil lamp means I can light it up at night, where I imagine night-time sounds as she pens her next story.

Creating these tiny worlds help my mental health and my autism, its escapism and I can imagine I'm somewhere else.

The best thing is creating it and putting it all together, a lot of hours but you now have created a tiny world of your own. In this case a tiny Victorian garden in my bedroom that I can escape to, lit up at night with the oil lamp, or lit up by the sun in the early morning.

Read our blogs



Read the latest blog by Bethany Bale, a Policy and Campaigns Officer specialising in education policy at Disability Rights UK, who discusses the recent Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Review,

Disability Rights UK Blogs

News from Leighton College

Coffee morning: Leighton College, the Kentish Town specialist college for students aged 16-24 with mild to moderate learning disabilities, will be holding our next coffee mornings for parents and professionals to get an overview of our offer. These will be at 10am on Friday 20 May, Friday 10 June and Friday 24 June. Please let me know if you would like to attend.

Young People for Inclusion (YPfi) is a project to be led in partnership with young disabled people and will support them to become advocates and campaigners for disabled people's rights.

The project has established a youth group where the young people regularly get together to discuss their experience, engage in workshops, plan fun activities, and decide how they want to guide the project.

The project is open to young people aged 16-25 in Camden, Brent and Barnet who identify as disabled, and is funded for five years. If you have any queries, or know a young person who would like to be involved contact, please contact Andy Forse: andy@elfridacamden.org.uk, mobile: 07887 542 403

Webpage with upcoming dates: <https://www.elfridacamden.org.uk/what-we-do/young-people-for-inclusion/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/YPFICamden>

Advice and Information for Disabled young people on education, apprenticeships, traineeships or Supported Internships is available from the DR UK Student Helpline

- Opening hours: 11am-1pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- Telephone: 0330 995 0414
- Email: students@disabilityrightsuk.org



Contact Us



 Email: getahead@disabilityrightsuk.org

 Twitter: [@GetAheadDRUK](https://twitter.com/GetAheadDRUK)

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 Videos: [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/GetAheadDRUK)

 [Get Ahead webpage](https://www.getahead.org.uk)

 [DR UK website](https://www.dr.uk)

We like to hear from you!

Give us your feedback and contact:

Getahead@disabilityrightsuk.org

For a text-only and large-print version of the Get Ahead newsletter:

email: getahead@disabilityrightsuk.org

Access the Get Ahead newsletters and magazines on our [Get Ahead webpage](https://www.getahead.org.uk)

To receive notifications about the Get Ahead publications please sign up [here](#)

Disability Rights UK

We are Disabled people leading change, and the voice of young Disabled people has to be central to that change.

Disability Rights Handbook 2022-23

Pre-order your copy today for
delivery in May 2022!

Provides in-depth,
**comprehensive guidance on the
benefits system, explains how
social care operates around the
UK and includes information
about other services and
resources for disabled people.**

DISABILITY RIGHTS HANDBOOK

Edition 47
April 2022 - April 2023

A guide to benefits and services
for all disabled people, their families,
carers and advisers



DISABILITY RIGHTS HANDBOOK UPDATER 2022-2023

- Disability Rights Handbook updates
- Significant recent case law

