

Report

[CQC's State of Care report: What it means for autistic people and their families](#)

The Care Quality Commission (CQC), the regulator of health and social care services in England, has released a new [report](#) that finds many autistic people are not getting the care and support they need. One year on, this again highlights the urgent need to provide immediate funding for the health, mental health and social care support autistic people need.

Guidance

[Guidance updated to allow flexibility in booster programme for most vulnerable](#)

Clinical guidance has been updated to allow COVID-19 boosters to be given earlier to those at highest risk where this makes operational sense.

Statistics

[Number of autistic people in mental health hospitals: latest data](#)

The latest monthly [Assuring Transformation NHS Digital data](#) shows that in September 2021:

- In total 2,085 autistic people and people with learning disabilities are in inpatient mental health hospitals in England.
- 1,220 (59%) of these people are autistic.

[Learning Disabilities Health Check Scheme September 2021](#)

The learning disabilities health check scheme operates on a monthly basis. This release contains data for September 2021 only, the sixth month of financial year 2021-22.

Consultation Response

[Shaping Future Support Green Paper Consultation: Members Response](#)

Members came together to share their views on the ideas proposed on the green paper Shaping Future Support, which is about how the benefits system can meet the needs of disabled people. Around 40 members met to share their views and several organisations shared their organisational responses with us. This paper brings together their responses.

Conference

[Autism Education Conference](#)

The [education conference](#) takes place online on 11 November, where we'll be hearing from a range of experts, including autistic professionals, writers, advocates, and teachers working in SEN schools. It'll also be available online afterwards.

News

[How an understudied trait has skewed autism studies for decades](#)

Many autistic people have a little-known trait called alexithymia, defined as having difficulty identifying one's own emotions. New research suggests that the overlap has been confounding studies of emotional issues in people with autism for decades.

[Inflexible thinking in adolescence linked to emotional, behavioral issues in adulthood](#)

Treating cognitive inflexibility — for example, by practicing problem-solving — might help ease anxiety and depression in autistic people.