

Invitation to participate in research study



We are doing a research project for the RCN Foundation about learning disability nursing.

We are interested to understand the impact that learning disability nurses have on people who use learning disability nursing services (now or in the past), and their families or carers.



We would like to invite you to take part in a focus group to talk about your experiences of learning disability nurses on Thursday 3rd July 2025 at the University of Salford.



We will be holding two groups:



10am a group for family members or carers of people who have a learning disability



1pm a group for people who have learning disability (you can bring somebody to support you if you wish)



The groups will be for up to 8 people, and will last for approximately 1 to 2 hours.

More information about this project is attached in the Participant Information Sheet (PIS).



If you can't attend the focus groups please get in touch, we can also organise a 1:1 interview either in person or online. These will take place on 9th & 10th July.



If you would like to take part, or want any more information, please contact Dan Redfearn (d.redfearn2@salford.ac.uk) and Aaron Hume (a.hume2@salford.ac.uk) by Thursday 19th June.

Easy-read participant information sheet



What is this project about?

We are doing a project about learning disability nursing and this part will be finding out about the impact that learning disability nurses have on people who have a learning disability, and their families or carers.

Who can take part in this part of the project

People who:



- Have a learning disability or are carers of people who have a learning disability
- Are currently seeing a learning disability nurse or have done in the past
- Are aged 18 or over
- Can decide for themselves whether to take part

What will I do if I take part

The project will involve either:



- being part of a small group of up to 8 people, led by a researcher. This will be in person at the University of Salford.
- there will be one group for people with a learning disability and one group for carers/ family members

or



- a 1:1 interview with a researcher (this could be in person, or online)



The group or the interview will talk about your experiences of having a learning disability nurse involved in your support.



The meetings will last for 1 to 2 hours approximately

They will be at the University of Salford and if you have to pay to get to the meetings then your expenses can be refunded. If you have a learning disability you will also receive a £40 voucher as a thank you for taking part.



You can have someone to support you if you want.



Do I have to take part?

No. You do not have to do this project. It is your choice. If you do take part you will need to sign a form to say that you are agreeing to be part of the project.



Can I change my mind?

Yes, you can change your mind at any time up to the point of the group discussion or interview. You do not have to tell us why you don't want to do it.



What happens to my information?

Your information will be kept private and safe in accordance with the law and university regulations.



What we talk about will be audio / video recorded and photos may be taken to remember what was said. The words will then be written down but will not have your name on it.

All information you give will be treated as confidential. It will only be used for the purpose of the project and will be destroyed after 3 years.



Good things about taking part?

Talking about your experiences means that you are being listened to and can help people to understand the impact that learning disability nurses have on people with lived experience. This might inform future practice and policy.



Risks when taking part?

Taking part should not have any bad effects but sometime the things we choose to talk about can make us sad. If you feel upset at any point you can



What will you do with the results?

The project findings will be available from the University of Salford Open Access Repository (USIR).

There may be publications about project in professional magazines.



We may also speak about the results in presentations online or when teaching students.



Any information you provide may be used in these but we will make sure that is presented in a way that will not identify you. We will not include your name so no-one will know it is about you.



What to do if there is a problem?

If you are not happy at any time you will need to tell the person in charge of the project, Vanessa Heaslip.

If you want to complain formally you can do this too.

All contact details are on the form 'what to do if you are unhappy'.



THANK YOU for your consideration of being part of this project.

If you want any further information please contact the principal investigator:



Professor Vanessa Heaslip

✉ v.a.heaslip@salford.ac.uk