

## Organisations offering information on disabilities

There are many organisations which offer information and support about living with a wide range of disabilities. These are listed below alphabetically in groups according to the nature of the disability

### General

- [Abilitynet](#) provides specialist equipment, needs assessment and training in the use of assistive technology. [email](#)
  - Tel: 0800 269545 or 01926 312847
  - Fax: 01905 42343
- [Disabled Drivers' Association](#) now called Mobilise - self help organisation run for disabled people by disabled people, and concerns itself with the needs of disabled people primarily by encouraging greater independence through enhanced mobility. [email](#)
  - Tel: 01508 489449
  - Fax: 01508 488173
- [Disabled Living Foundation](#) provides a national information, advice and training service on home-based equipment and practical facilities. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7289 6111
  - Textphone: 0207 432 8009
  - Fax: 0207 266 2922
- [Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#) is one of the largest social policy research and development charities in the UK, Spending about £10 million a year on a research and development programme that seeks to better understand the causes of social difficulties and explore ways of overcoming them. [email](#)
  - Tel: 01904 629241
  - Fax: 01904 620072
- [LMCA](#) Long-term Medical Conditions Alliance lobbies for full implementation of existing health and social care policies that will improve the lives of people affected by long-term conditions. Influences the creation and content of new national health and social care policies, and other aspects of public policy where appropriate, to benefit people affected by long-term conditions. Promotes a wide range of sustainable high-quality self-management programmes for people affected by long-term conditions. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7813 3637
  - Fax: 020 7813 3640
- [RADAR](#) campaigns for disability rights and provides an information and advice service. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7250 3222
  - Textphone: 020 7250 4119
  - Fax: 020 7250 0212

- [Ricability](#) - national research charity dedicated to providing independent information of value to disabled and older consumers. Works with manufacturers, service providers, regulators and policy makers, to improve products and services. Increases awareness of the needs of disabled and older consumers through specialist research [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7427 2460
  - Textphone: 020 7427 2469
  - Fax: 020 7427 2468
- [SKILL](#): National Bureau for Students with Disabilities promotes equality of opportunity for disabled people in post age-16 education, training and employment across the UK. This site also provides a good information service. [email](#)
  - Tel: 0800 328 5050
  - Textphone: 0800 068 2422
  - Fax: 020 7450 0650

## Hearing Impaired

- [British Deaf Association](#) is the largest Deaf organisation in the UK that is run by Deaf people. They represent the Sign Language community, which is united by shared experiences, history and use of British Sign Language (BSL). [email](#)
  - Videophone IP: 81.138.165.105
  - Textphone: 020 7588 3529
  - Tel: 020 7588 3520
  - Fax: 020 7588 3527
- [Council for Advancement of Communication with Deaf People](#) CACDP provides training and qualifications in communication support skills for deaf and hard of hearing people. It produces a register of qualified interpreters. [email](#)
  - Tel: 0191 383 1115
  - TextTel: 0191 383 7915
  - Fax: 0191 383 7914
- [RNID](#) Royal National Institute for Deaf People headquarters provides information, training and communication support for deaf and hard of hearing people. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7296 8000
  - Textphone: 020 7296 8001
  - Free textphone: 0808 0808 9000
  - Fax: 020 7296 8199

## Learning Difficulties

- [BDA](#) British Dyslexia Association raises awareness about dyslexia and influences the development of services to meet the needs of dyslexic people. [email](#)
  - Helpline: 0118 966 8271
- [Adult Dyslexia Organisation](#) gives support and information for adults with dyslexia. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7924 9559
  - Fax: 020 7207 7796
- [Adult Dyslexia and Skills Development Centre](#) focus on developing the individual's skills and abilities to enable them to become more successful. Their services include consultancy, training, coaching and assessment. [email](#)

- Tel: 0207 388 8744
- Fax: 0207 387 7062
- [The Dyslexia Institute](#) provides advice and counselling through a local network, educational psychologist assessment and teacher training. [email](#)
  - Tel: 01784 222300
  - Fax: 01784 222333
- [Dyspraxia Foundation](#) helps people to understand and cope with dyspraxia. Is a resource for parents, for teenagers and adults who have the condition, and for professionals who assist them. [email](#)
  - Tel: 01462 454 986
  - Fax: 01462 455 052
- [Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities](#) Promotes the rights, quality of life and opportunities of people with learning disabilities and their families. Carries out research and develops projects that promote social inclusion and citizenship. Supports local communities and services to include people with learning disabilities. Makes practical improvements in services for people with learning disabilities and spreads knowledge and information. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7803 1100
  - Fax: 020 7803 1111
- [British Institute of Learning Disabilities](#) Works to improve the lives of people in the UK with a learning disability. They work with the government and other organisations to improve the lives of people with learning disabilities. They carry out research and publish the results, train staff, family carers and people with a learning disability. They work with advocacy groups and people with learning disabilities to help them give their views on the services they receive. [email](#)
  - Tel: 01562 723010
  - Fax: 01562 723029

## Mental Health Difficulties

- [Alzheimer's Society](#) The UK's leading care and research charity for people with dementia, their families and carers. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7306 0606
  - Fax 020 7306 0808
- [Down's Syndrome Association](#) Provides information and support for people with Down's syndrome, their families and carers. Is also a resource for interested professionals. Campaigns to improve knowledge of the condition. [email](#)
  - Tel: Tel: 0845 230 0372
  - Fax: 0845 230 0373
- [Epilepsy Action](#) Largest member-led epilepsy organisation in Britain, acting as the voice for the UK's estimated 456,000 people with epilepsy, as well as their friends, families, carers, health professionals and the many other people on whose lives the condition has an impact. [email](#)
  - Tel: 0808 800 5050 (UK)
- [Headway](#) the brain injury association. Gives help and support to people affected by brain injury. Offers a wide range of services, including rehabilitation programmes, carer support, social re-integration, community outreach and respite care. Promotes high quality services through guidance on policies, procedures, standards and training. Provides information, advises on sources of support, finds

local rehabilitation services. Publishes a range of booklets containing information about aspects of brain injury that will be helpful to those directly affected, plus professionals, employers and members of the public. Promotes understanding of brain injury and its effects, lobbies for better support and resources to be made available by statutory health and social care providers. Campaigns for measures that will reduce the number of brain injuries. Email Headway using enquiry form on [website](#)

- Tel: 0115 9240800
  - Helpline: 0808 800 2244
  - Fax: 0115 958 4446
  - Minicom: 0115 950 7825
- [MDF](#) - The Bipolar Organisation. Works to enable people affected by bipolar disorder/manic depression to take control of their lives. Supports and develops self-help opportunities for people affected by manic depression. Provides information services about manic depression. Influences the improvement of treatments and services to promote recovery. [email](#)
  - Tel: 08456 340 540
  - Fax: 020 7793 2639
- [Mencap](#) is the UK's leading learning disability charity working with people with a learning disability and their families and carers. Provides information and advice on housing and support, community and leisure issues. Promotes opportunities in sport at all levels for people with a learning disability, provides education services and helps people into work. Campaigns for equal rights and chances for people with a learning disability. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7454 0454
  - Fax: 020 7608 3254
- [MIND](#) Leading mental health charity in England and Wales. Works to create a better life for everyone with experience of mental distress. Promotes the views, needs and ambitions of people with mental health problems, challenges discrimination and promotes inclusion, influences policy through campaigning and education. Provides an information service and booklets on mental distress
  - Tel: 020 8519 2122
  - Infoline: 08457 660163
- [National Autistic Society](#) The National Autistic Society exists to champion the rights and interests of all people with autism and to ensure that they and their families receive quality services appropriate to their needs. email using form on [website](#).
  - Helpline 0845 070 4004
  - Fax: 020 7833 9666
- [National Federation of Access Centres \(NFAC\)](#) NFAC provides assessments to determine disabled students' educational and employment support needs. [email](#)
  - Tel: 01752 232278
  - Fax: 01752 232279
- [National Society for Epilepsy](#) provides information and support to people with epilepsy, their families, friends and professionals involved in their care. Raises awareness of epilepsy among the general public. Provides care for people with epilepsy through medical, residential and rehabilitation services
  - Tel: 01494 601300
  - Fax: 01494 871927
  - Helpline: 01494 601400

- [Rethink](#) Severe Mental Illness Leading national mental health membership charity, works to help everyone affected by severe mental illness recover a better quality of life. Provides information and support to all those with mental health difficulties and their carers. Carries out research which informs national mental health policies and actively campaigns for change, through greater awareness and understanding. [email](#)
  - Tel: 0845 456 0455
- [Sane](#) raises awareness and respect for people with mental illness and their families, improves education and training, and secures better services. Undertakes research into the causes of serious mental illness through, provides information and emotional support to those experiencing mental health problems, their families and carers. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7375 1002
  - Fax: 020 7375 2162
- [SCOPE](#) provides a range of services for people with cerebral palsy [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7619 7100
  - FreeTel: 0808 800 3333
  - Fax: 020 7619 7380

## Physical Difficulties

- [Arthritis Care](#) provides information and services and campaigns on behalf of people with arthritis. Young Arthritis Care is for people aged under 46. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7916 1500
  - Fax: 020 7916 1505
- [ASBAH](#) Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus. ASBAH is the leading UK registered charity providing information and advice about spina bifida and hydrocephalus to individuals, families and carers. [email](#)
  - Tel: (01733) 555988
  - Fax: (01733) 555985
- [BackCare](#) The Charity for Healthier Backs. Provides evidence-based information via their website, facts sheets, publications and Talkback magazine, telephone helpline service , promoting best practice in the prevention and management of back pain , funding research into the causes, treatments and management of back pain, promoting self help via local branches. [email](#)
  - Tel:020 8977 5474
  - Fax: 020 8943 5318
  - Helpline: 0845 130 2704 (local rate)
- [British Heart Foundation](#) largest independent funder of heart research in the UK. They fund education, reaching the public and health professionals, provide life-saving cardiac equipment and support for rehabilitation and patient care. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7935 0185
  - Fax: 020 7486 5820
  - Heart Information Line: 08450 70 80 70
- [BPF](#) British Polio Fellowship provides a wide range of information and advice for polio-affected people on rights, housing issues, equipment, self-management courses, advocacy and campaigning. Makes representations on behalf of members and responds to Government consultation papers. [email](#)
  - Tel: 0800 0180586
  - Fax: 020 8842 0555

- [Cancer BACUP British Association of Cancer United Patients](#). Provides cancer information, practical advice and support for cancer patients, their families and carers. Email using enquiry form on [website](#)
  - Tel: 0808 800 1234
  - Fax: 020 7696 9002
- [Changing Faces](#) supports and represents people who have disfigurements of the face or body from any cause.
  - Tel: 0845 4500 275
  - Fax: 0845 4500 276
- [Cystic Fibrosis Trust](#) provides information, advice, support and, where appropriate, financial assistance to anyone affected by Cystic Fibrosis. Funds medical and scientific research, to develop a cure and provide effective treatments for Cystic Fibrosis. Promotes appropriate clinical care, for those with Cystic Fibrosis. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 8464 7211
  - Fax: 020 8313 0472
- [Diabetes UK](#) works for people with diabetes, funding research, campaigning and helping people live with the condition. [email](#)
  - Tel 020 7424 1000
  - Fax 020 7424 1001
- [Haemophilia Society](#) works for people with haemophilia, von Willebrand's or a related bleeding disorder and their families to secure the best possible care, treatment and support. Provide information, advice and support services and advocate and campaign to secure the best possible care and treatment. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7831 1020
  - Fax: 020 7405 4824
  - Freephone helpline: 0800 018 6068 (Monday to Friday 10 am to 4 pm)
- [HDA](#) Huntington's Disease Association (formerly Huntington's Chorea). The HDA is a UK registered charity which supports people affected by Huntington's disease (HD). Provides information and advice to families, friends and health care professionals whose task it is to support Huntington's disease families. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7022 1950
  - Fax: 020 7022 1953
- [Leukaemia Care Society](#) provides care and support to all those whose lives are affected by leukaemia, lymphoma and the allied blood disorders. Extends to the welfare of families and carers, as well as that of patients themselves. [email](#)
  - Tel: 01905 755977
  - Fax: 01905 755166
- [Limbless Association](#) pProvides information, advice and support for people of all ages who are without one or more limbs. Has a nationwide network of volunteer visitors (within the UK) who are all amputees themselves, offering support and encouragement to prospective amputees, carers and those already trying to come to terms with limb loss or deficiency. Promotes user consultation in the running of Artificial Limb Centres (within the UK), and works in partnership with statutory, commercial, voluntary and other bodies to raise standards and develop policy. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 8487 6032
- [Multiple Sclerosis Society](#) funds MS research, runs respite care centres, provides grants (financial assistance), education and training on MS. Produces numerous

publications on MS and runs a free phone specialist helpline. [Email](#) using this online form.

- Tel: 020 8438 0700
- [Muscular Dystrophy Group](#). The Muscular Dystrophy Campaign is the only UK charity focussing on all muscular dystrophies and allied disorders. Pioneered the search for treatments and cures. Provides practical, medical and emotional support for people affected by the conditions. Funds and monitor research into neuromuscular conditions and provides research updates and reviews about recent developments. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7720 8055
  - Fax: 020 7498 0670
- [National AIDS Trust](#) UK's leading independent policy and campaigning voice on HIV and AIDS, influences attitudes, behaviour and decisions that have an impact on the lives of people affected by, and at risk of HIV and AIDS. Promotes research into current issues, identifies solutions, informs and educates people, campaigns for change, raises awareness through the media and events, works with other HIV organisations to represent the needs and views of all people affected by HIV and AIDS at a national level. Provides advice and support on policy issues to the HIV sector, to strengthen their campaigning voice. [email](#)
  - Tel: +44 020 7814 6767
  - Fax: +44 020 7216 0111
- [PDS](#) Parkinson's Disease Society provides support, advice and information to people with Parkinson's, their carers, families and friends, and to health and social services professionals involved in management and care. Researches into the causes, prevention, cure, progression and care of Parkinson's disease. Policy and campaigning group. [email](#)
  - Tel : 020 7931 8080
  - Fax: 020 7233 9908 / 020 7963 9360
- [Spinal Injuries Association](#) provides information service to meet the needs of newly spinal cord injured people and their families. Publishes information and advice. Offers various services: legal, welfare, travel. Holiday, personal assistance. [email](#)
  - Tel: 0845 678 6633
  - Fax: 0845 070 6911
  - Freephone Helpline: 0800 980 0501
- [The Stroke Association](#) National charity solely concerned with combating stroke in people of all ages. Funds research into prevention, treatment and better methods of rehabilitation, and helps stroke patients and their families directly through its community services. Also campaigns, educates and informs to increase knowledge of stroke at all levels of society. Produces a number of publications including patient leaflets, Stroke News (a quarterly magazine) and information for health professionals. [email](#)
  - Tel: 0845 3033 100
- [Terrence Higgins Trust](#) Provides services which improve the health and quality of life of those with HIV. Campaigns for greater public understanding of the personal, social and medical impact of HIV and sexual ill health. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7812 1600
  - Fax: 020 7812 1601

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## Speech Impairment

- [British Stammering Association](#) provides information and support on stammering/stuttering. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020-8983 1003
  - Fax: 020-8983 3591
- [Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists](#) Professional body for speech and language therapists in the UK. Responsible for setting, promoting and maintaining high standards in the education, clinical practice and ethical conduct of speech and language therapists.
  - Tel: 020 7378 3012/3
  - Fax: 020 7403 7254

## Visually Impaired

- [Action for Blind People](#) provides information and advice for blind people on Losing your eyesight, Eye Conditions, Access technology, Visual Awareness Training, Support for employers, Literature Library, Employment, Grants, support in your community, legal support, Welfare Rights. [email](#)
  - Tel: 0800 915 4666
- [BCAB](#) British Computer Association of the Blind. BCAB is an organisation of visually impaired people who use Information and Communications Technology (ICT). Our members range from experienced computer professionals to people who are beginning to explore the use of Information and Communications Technology for leisure, study or employment. [email](#)
  - Tel: 0845 430 8627
- [Partially Sighted Society](#) gives information and advice, and specialist equipment including low vision aids. [email](#)
  - Tel: 01302 323132
  - Fax: 01302 323132
- [RNIB](#) Royal National Institute for the Blind provides information and advice, assessments, audio tape and Braille services and student support for blind and partially sighted people. [email](#)
  - Tel: 020 7388 1266
  - Fax: 020 7388 2034
- [Sense](#) UK Deafblind Charity Reputation for its expertise in working with deafblind people. Works with people with single sensory impairments and a wide range of other difficulties - including physical disabilities, learning disabilities, and challenging behaviour. Provides advice for a wide range of clients from babies to older people. Offers training and other services related to deafblindness [email](#)
  - Tel: 0845 127 0060
  - Fax: 0845 127 0061