



Easier News

How to make news for and with
people with learning disabilities

Hello!



Do you watch the news?





Can people with
a learning disability
access BBC News?



Harry



Vijay



Natalie



Mo

“A lot of news seems like it’s made to distress people, made to make people scared. And... it’s not fair for some people – especially for people with a learning disability.”



Why does this matter?





Why does this matter?





Why does this matter?



Luke

“These people who make fake news... for people reading it – especially people with learning disabilities – it’s very, very confusing. And that’s why we need reputable news.”



Why does this matter?



Eliph

“Sometimes I have to ask my dad what’s going on and then I get my dad’s opinions. And I know my friends have a lot of their parents’ opinions, and it was really difficult when there was a lot about trans [issues in the news]. And I didn’t get the chance to get the information and make my own opinions.”



Why does this matter?



Lucy

“I do like watching the news. I find it quite interesting, the whole of the world and the country, Donald Trump and the Prime Minister...”



Germany

So is anyone doing news for people with a learning disability?

YES!!



Latvia



Sweden



Norway

Finland



Austria



Spain



Denmark



The Netherlands



Slovenia



Inclusion in news
means...

1. News should be
easy to
understand

(Accessibility)



Inclusion in news means...

2. News should show more people with a learning disability

(Representation)



Inclusion in news means...

3. People with a learning disability should help make the news

(Participation)

Accessibility... and representation



[TV Bra](#)



[Tagesschau](#)

[BBC News version](#)

[BBC News in plain English](#)





Which do you prefer?!



What do you think?

How should news for people with a learning disability look?

A. Like normal news but easier to understand
 15 people

B. It should look more fun and friendly than normal news
 16 people



What do you think?

What should news broadcasters do first?

A. Make their news easier to understand



B. Give people with learning disabilities
a show



C. Don't know





BBC Pilot 1



An easy news story delivered to camera

Natalie

Hattie

What did people think?

PAUL



"That was much easier to understand. It was less stressful. I liked the recap at the end."

ANDREW



"That was a lot slower and not too many videos. I would like to see news like this for local and worldwide."

RAHIMA



"It understands why we might be scared. It had clearly divided sections. It linked to us to tell us what to do."

HARRY



"Natalie explained it better because she's a lived experience person like all of us, with a learning disability."



Plus some constructive feedback...

PAUL



“I lost concentration easily. The person being interviewed should have pictures alongside the talk.”

BBC Pilot 2



[An easy chat about social care](#)

What did people think?

AMY



“It is accessible. It has straightforward questions.”

ANDREW



“It’s good to know people with learning disability have their own show.”

RAHIMA



“I like that they had a disabled person to ask questions as it feels that they have represented me.”



Plus some constructive feedback...

PAUL



“The main news BBC background should be used so that it feels like real news.”

Participation in news





What do you think?

Do you want your news

A. to just tell you what's happening?


B. to also give you information about services, and advice


Do you think you need more news for?



I think the BBC should



1. Make daily news that is easier to understand



I think the BBC should



2. Create a weekly programme that is aimed at people with a learning disability



I think the BBC could...

Do easy news online

Start a news club for people with a learning disability

Work with a partner on a training scheme for people with learning disabilities

Form an advisory group to guide how they make easy news



What can you do about this?

Thank you!

Full report



Easy-read summary

