



**Down's Syndrome
Association**

A Registered Charity No. 1061474

Social Care Series



Adult Needs Assessments

What do you need help with?

Easy Read

A Down's Syndrome Association Publication

About this leaflet



→ This leaflet is made by the Down's Syndrome Association.



→ It is in Easy Read.

Easy Read means easy words with pictures to help everyone understand.



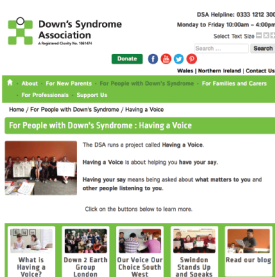
→ We ask **Having a Voice groups** to help us make Easy Read information.



→ **Having a Voice groups** are groups of people with Down's syndrome. They help people have their say.



→ **Having a Voice groups** make sure the Easy Read information is easy to understand.



→ You can find out more about **Having a Voice** on the Down's Syndrome Association website.

What is in this leaflet?



Support

→ This leaflet is all about having needs assessments.



→ Needs assessments help you get the support you need.



→ Page 5 – What is a needs assessment?



→ Page 7 – What will happen in a needs assessment?



→ **Page 9** – What does the **assessor** need to know?



→ **Page 10** – What I want people to know about me.



→ **Page 11** – Who can help me?



→ **Page 13** – What next?



→ **Page 14** – More information.

What is a Needs Assessment?



→ A **needs assessment** is a meeting with someone who can help you get the right support.

All adults with Down's syndrome can have a **needs assessment** to get help with things like:



→ • washing and dressing



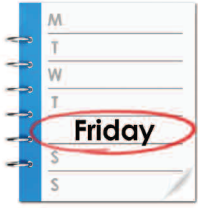
→ • cooking



→ • shopping



→ • banking and money



→ • going to appointments



→ • getting places



→ • seeing family and friends



→ A **needs assessment** will work out how much support you need.



→ You can ask for a **needs assessment** by writing to

(insert your local authority)

You can ask for help to do this.

What will happen in a Needs Assessment?

Insert a picture of your assessor

→ An **assessor** will come to meet you. You can ask for a picture of this person.



→ The **assessor** will ask questions about your life.



→ They have to ask you in a way you **understand**.

Insert a picture of you

→ The **assessor** must know about people with Down's syndrome.

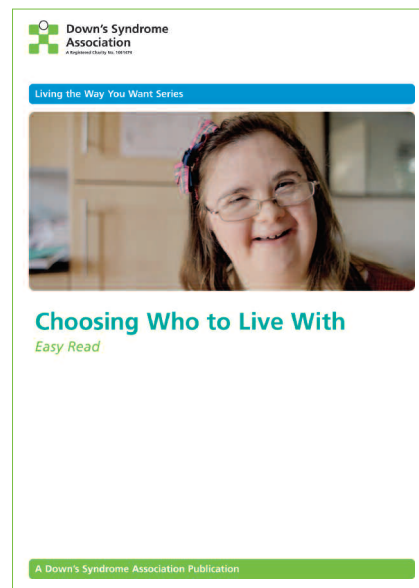
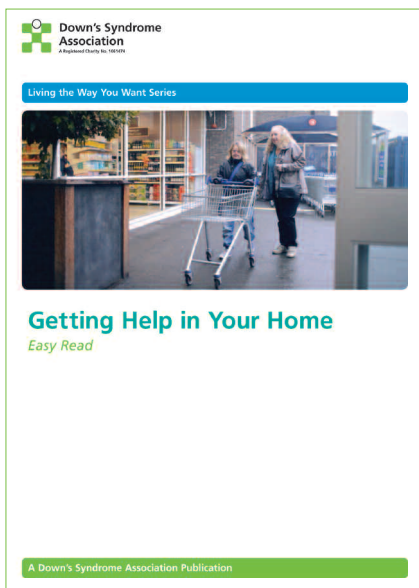
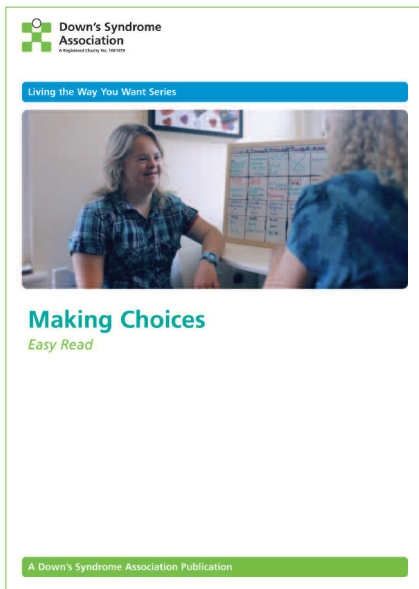


→ You can have help wherever you live.



→ Our 'Living the Way You Want' series on our website explains some of the support options.

These booklets will help you to explain what is important to you.




What does the assessor need to know?



→ The **assessor** needs to know what you need help with.



→ You need to tell the **assessor** about the things you like doing and the help you need to live your life.

 Down's Syndrome Association <small>A member of the charity sector</small>	Name:
What I want people to know about me	
I am...	
I want...	
I like...	
I don't like...	
I can...	
I need help with...	

→ You can use the **next page** to prepare for your assessment.

What I want people to know about me

I am...

I want...

I like...

I don't like...

I can...

I need help with...

Who can help me?

Insert a picture of your supporters

→ You can ask your family or a friend to support you with the assessment.

You can ask the **assessor** to speak to:



→ • **your family**



→ • **your friends**



→ • **professionals**, such as your doctor or anyone else who works with you

This will help the **assessor** understand your life and the support you need.

What if I don't have anyone who can help me?



→ If you don't have anyone who can help you, you should ask for an **advocate**.

You can do this by writing to

(insert your local authority)



→ An **advocate** is a person who can help you with your assessment. It is the advocate's job to make sure your voice is **listened to**.

What next?



- After your assessment the **assessor** will tell you **how much support the local authority can give you.**

The **assessor** will help you to look at your options.



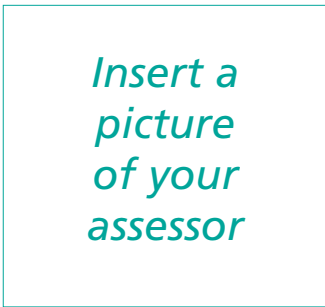
- The **assessor** will help you to make a plan called a **Care and Support Plan.**

The **Care and Support Plan** says what support you will get.



- The help you get **must** be good enough to support you properly.

What do I do if I'm not happy?



➔ First, you can **talk to your assessor**.



➔ Next, you can make a **formal complaint** if nothing has changed.

Ask for help to make a formal complaint.

More Information

➔ You can find more Easy Read information on our website: www.downs-syndrome.org.uk

You can also find fact sheets on our website for parents and carers about assessments. These will help you and your family or advocate prepare for the assessment.



How we can help



→ The Down's Syndrome Association has a helpline. You can call us on **0333 1212 300**. We are happy to answer your questions.

The helpline is open Monday to Friday from 10am until 4pm.



→ You can also email us at info@downs-syndrome.org.uk

Down's Syndrome Association



→ **Address:** Langdon Down Centre,
2a Langdon Park, Teddington,
Middlesex TW11 9PS

Telephone: [0333 1212 300](tel:03331212300)

E-mail: info@downs-syndrome.org.uk

Website: www.downs-syndrome.org.uk

The Down's Syndrome Association provides information and support on all aspects of living with Down's syndrome. We also work to champion the rights of people with Down's syndrome, by campaigning for change and challenging discrimination. A wide range of Down's Syndrome Association publications can be downloaded free of charge from our website.

Contact us

Down's Syndrome Association

National Office

Langdon Down Centre,
2a Langdon Park, Teddington,
Middlesex, TW11 9PS

t. 0333 1212 300

f. 020 8614 5127

e. info@downs-syndrome.org.uk

w. www.downs-syndrome.org.uk

Wales

t. 0333 1212 300

e. wales@downs-syndrome.org.uk

Northern Ireland

Unit 2, Marlborough House,
348 Lisburn Road,
Belfast BT9 6GH

t. 02890 665260

f. 02890 667674

e. enquiriesni@downs-syndrome.org.uk



**Down's Syndrome
Association**

A Registered Charity No. 1061474



www.dsactive.org



www.dsworkfit.org.uk



**LANGDON DOWN
MUSEUM OF
LEARNING
DISABILITY**

www.langdondownmuseum.org.uk
www.facebook.com/LangdonDownMuseum



www.langdondowncentre.org.uk

