

Round-up of complex needs meeting (May 2023)

Topic: What is the impact on your family's relationships with wider family and friends of caring for someone who has complex needs

Points from discussion

Many people talked about the impact on relationships with close family members such as Grandparents and Aunties and Uncles. Some people felt the relationships were impacted greatly, one mum said their parent had asked not to see the person who had Down's syndrome and would occasionally ask how they were. Another person felt they received a lot of support from close family.

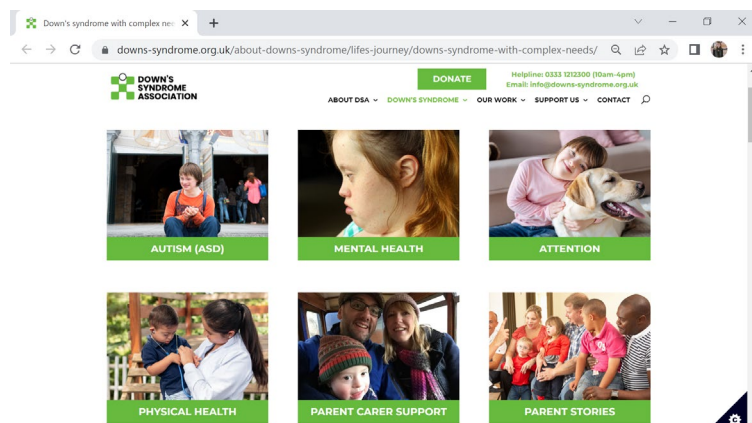
Most people felt that they had good friends who were a great source of support. Some people had chosen friendships with other parents of children who had special needs, others chose to have friends that did not. In one case, a friend who did not have any children had a very close bond with the son who had Down's syndrome. She had reassured the mum that she would be there for him in the future should anything happen.

Behaviour was the biggest factor in how relationships were impacted with a range of experiences in how others responded. One person felt that younger family members were more accepting of difference than relatives of similar age or older.

A few people felt that siblings had very positive relationships with each other and that friends were able to visit the home. One person talked about how a sibling had additional needs that had been missed.

People shared a wide variety of experiences and it was an open, lively discussion around what can be an emotive topic for many.

DSA



**New complex
needs webpage.**

<https://www.downs-syndrome.org.uk/about-downs-syndrome/lifes-journey/downs-syndrome-with-complex-needs/>

Link to training page with all events

<https://www.downs-syndrome.org.uk/our-work/services-projects/training/>

<p>Dual Diagnosis of Down's syndrome and Autism webinar</p>  <p>Part two</p> 	<p>Dual Diagnosis of Down's syndrome and Autism webinar</p>  <p>Part one</p> 
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8th June 10.30am – 11.45am

6th July 10.30am - Midday

Listening Service

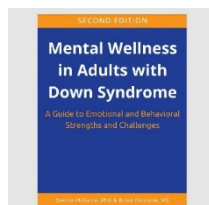


DOWN'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION
LISTENING SERVICE

A SERVICE FOR PARENTS, PARENTS TO BE OR FAMILY CARERS OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE DOWN'S SYNDROME.

<https://www.downs-syndrome.org.uk/our-work/services-projects/training/listening-service/>

Other



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