

Tips to help you communicate with a person who has a learning disability and sight loss

- Use the person's preferred communication method eg speech, sign, objects of reference etc as documented in their communication passport (if appropriate)
- Gain the person's attention by speaking first or by a gentle touch on the arm or shoulder
- Introduce who you are and what you do
- Be calm and patient and allow extra time for the person to process the information
- Speak clearly and slowly but don't shout
- Use simple language and short sentences, only one idea, question or instruction at a time
- O.W.L - Don't always "fill in the silence" by speaking yourself – Observe, Wait and Listen for responses
- Repeat yourself slightly differently if the person is unsure
- Be aware of the impact of the surrounding environment eg noise level and distractions
- Offer guidance and support to reach destination
- Provide information in an accessible way and format

For information: **0303 123 9999**
or visit [rnib.org.uk/learningdisability](https://www.rnib.org.uk/learningdisability)

working together

RNIB Supporting people
with sight loss


Action for blind people

Action for Blind People reg charity no. 205913
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