



Welcome to your Foster carer's learning log. Helping you to structure and record your self-directed learning.

Name:

### Unit 3. Families with a disabled parent or child

Whether or not you are caring for a disabled child (or parent), it is crucial that you understand and embed the social model of disability into your practice, ensuring access to opportunities for playing and learning. People with impairments are only disabled if there are barriers in society which prevent their engagement.

#### Quick knowledge check

**What do the following acronyms mean?**

- EHC plan
- DLA payment
- PIP payment

For each of the above, do you know what and who are they for and how you access them?

*Your notes*

**What do you already know?**

What do you understand by the 'social model of disability'? Can you give one or two examples of barriers in society which exclude people with impairments and how these barriers can be overcome?

*Your notes*

## Improving your knowledge and understanding

### Disabled children

[SCOPE's 'social model of disability' section](#)

[Explaining the social model of disability to children using 'Winnie the Witch' story](#)

[A list of story books featuring disabled children](#)

[Disability Wales. Good summary of difference between medical model and social model of disability, with vlogs](#)

[Council for disabled children website with sections for parents and children, and transition to adulthood](#)

[CONTACT. Website with comprehensive support and information for families with disabled children](#)

[What? Why? Children in hospital.](#) A great website with lots of child-friendly films and resources

[Fledglings: Toys, clothing and sensory products for disabled children](#)

[Preparing for adult life section of CONTACT website](#)

### Disabled parents

[Best Beginnings website 'parents with disabilities' section](#)

[Disability, pregnancy, and parenthood website. Practical information and peer support for disabled parents](#)

Please also see unit 6; Families affected by a parent with a learning difficulty



## My key learning

What have been the most interesting things you have learned from your reading and research? Use this space to make some notes or a bullet-point list. Include thoughts about the social model of disability. Has this challenged your understanding of what it means to make society inclusive and opportunities accessible to everyone?

*Your notes*





## Reflection

If you have cared for a disabled child or parent, how easy was it to ensure they were getting all the relevant support and services? How did you feel about this advocacy aspect of your role?

*Your notes*

Consider your day-to-day routines and activities. Could these be easily accessed by a disabled child, young person or parent? How can we as foster carers help all children to recognise the need for a more equitable society?

*Your notes*

What additional support might a disabled young person need to become as independent as possible as they move towards adulthood?

*Your notes*

## Discussion with peers or your supervising social worker

### Discussion starters

- Things you have learnt
- How that might affect your practice as a foster carer
- A list of useful resources to go back to or pass on to other carers



*Your notes*

What else will you, as practitioners or as an organisation, do to ensure that all you do is accessible to disabled children and parents? Could you ask a local support service to come and talk about what is available locally?

*Your notes*

### Answers to quick knowledge check

Please see the CONTACT website and search for the terms to find answers

These resources have been developed by Lucy November ([lucy@fosteringhope.co.uk](mailto:lucy@fosteringhope.co.uk)), funded by the Sir Halley Stewart Trust. They are free to use, but please contact Lucy if you are using them in order to join our network and contribute to an evaluation. Copyright 2020 Tanya Farrugia Illustration (images).