



Dudley

Learning Disability Partnership Board



Unicorn Centre

The Unicorn Centre is a specialist service for adults with profound multiple learning disabilities.

People and parents/carers are supported to achieve their agreed personal outcomes.

One of the tools that is used to support activities at the Unicorn includes RITA:

RITA is used mainly to support 1-1s because staff have a knowledge of their individual service users and will use the varied content to support individuals.

RITA is used consistently with 6 individuals and sometimes group sessions. There is normally a maximum of 9 in a session.

Feedback:

**Do you now feel you have more opportunities for meaningful engagements with RITA?
Please provide examples.**

“RITA definitely helps all staff to ensure meaningful interactions can be achieved. There were some sceptical staff initially because it was a new concept and ‘technology’ but all of those staff have now embraced it and love it. They see the value of having it and use it constantly.

“Ease of use has been a real benefit as it has encouraged not only staff but service users to engage.

“RITA has enhanced communication because it has enabled staff to be more responsive to how the service user responds to certain activities and therefore engagement is more meaningful.

“An example is a service user who was calmed when classical music was played, which has been a great benefit when this individual needed to be calmed, but they have also found that when the Abba song “does your mother know” is played the service user smiles and shakes his head so there is clear understanding from him which has surprised and delighted the staff.”

How many residents have access to, or benefit from, the use of RITA in your home?

“RITA has been used with 6 service users so far, but we are looking at extending this due to the successes they have seen so far.”

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