

What are the Complex Learning Difficulties & Disabilities (CLDD) Briefing Sheets?

There are ten sets of CLDD Briefing Sheets each of which provide initial information about conditions which often overlap with others to form the complex make up of children with CLDD. The sheets cover the areas of: Attachment disorders, Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), Autism and autistic spectrum disorders (ASD), Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, Fragile-X syndrome, Mental health, Prematurity, Rare chromosome disorders, Sensory impairments, and The effects of drug use and smoking in pregnancy. This provides initial information about the conditions for educators and others who want a brief introduction. It provides background information, key strategies and references to some key texts about the condition. The briefing sheets should be a starting point for practitioners working with a student, until a personalised learning pathway can be established with details of effective strategies relevant to that student. It is important to be aware of the uniqueness of each child and young person, particularly those with CLDD. Sharing the information from the CLDD Briefing Sheets between practitioners and families will enable a greater insight into the challenges experiences by both the student and those involved in their learning. Implementing the sheets, it is important that the packs are used within an ethos, which promotes transdisciplinary and multidisciplinary collaboration, including active involvement of families and the student themselves to the extent they choose or are able to be.

The CLDD research project team under the guidance of Professor Barry Carpenter compiled the set of sheets. They were developed in association with the project schools during Phases 1 and 2 of the project, and reviewed by project advisors.

The Briefing sheets have now extended to Briefing Packs for Erasmus research on Early Inclusion.

Inclusion Briefing Packs

The Inclusion Briefing Packs are ready with information sheets related to educational needs of children with special needs.

The Inclusion Briefing Packs consist of 2 parts

a) Briefing Packs

Based on initial work of Professor Barry Carpenter and his research team, the Complex Learning Difficulties & Disabilities (CLDD) "Briefing Packs" provide relevant information for educators and related professionals, who are not primarily trained in the field of special needs. The packs provide information about Attachment, Autism, ADHD, and Effects of drug and nicotine abuse during pregnancy, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Fragile X- Syndrome, mental health issues, Prematurely born children, Rare Chromosomal Syndromes and Sensory Impairment.

This information is meant as a starting point to understand and develop strategies for children with one or more disabilities or special needs. These children could be termed as having Complex Needs.

b) Learning Outcomes

Based on a Learning Outcomes Model and levels within the European Qualification Frame the "Learning Outcomes" provide EQF-level specific certification (e.g. teaching assistants for day mothers/day fathers, staff in day nurseries, kindergarten teacher, youth workers etc) through a series of exercises and reflective questions.

Both resources are part of the broader strategy within the Project to increase knowledge and

skills towards inclusive practice.

“Briefing Packs” and “Learning Outcomes” – together with the “Inclusion Methods Market” is an integrative part of the “Inclusive Competence Passport”.

Studying the “Inclusive Briefing Packs” and learning about the “Inclusion Methods Market” contributes individual credits to the portfolio of the user. This portfolio can be widened by taking part in face-to-face multiplier events within the project or other workshops/seminars within the field of inclusion.

To find out more about Early Inclusion go to their website <http://www.early-inclusion.eu>

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