



Senior Research Specialist

About the Team and the Role

This is a crucial role in Mencap's research team based in the communications, campaigns and activism directorate. We work with colleagues across Mencap to ensure that learning disability policy and practice is based on the best evidence. In this role you will:

- Design, develop and carry out research and analytical projects in support of Mencap's strategic priorities such as health, social care, employment and education.
- Provide research and analytical support to the wider organisation, to ensure Mencap uses data and research both innovatively and accurately to maximise impact.
- Provide research advice and consultancy to Mencap staff on all aspects of research including research briefs, commissioning research, project management, data analysis and report writing.
- Develop our expertise in inclusive research and work with external stakeholders and research partners to support and promote Learning Disability research through collaboration and knowledge transfer.
- Provide effective and supportive line management to research colleagues, including colleagues with a Learning Disability.
- Work collaboratively with colleagues in the policy, campaigns and media teams within Mencap and academic partners across the UK
- Deputise for the Head of Research on occasion.

What you will bring to the role (Essentials)

- Demonstrable skill and experience in qualitative and quantitative research methods
- Ability to interpret and analyse quantitative and qualitative data including proficiency in software analysis tools (e.g. SPSS/ Excel)
- Proven ability to design and deliver research projects from conception to publication, including budget management
- Strong written and verbal communication skills including sharing complex findings and persuading new audiences
- Advanced skills in co-production, inclusive research, ethics and data protection
- Excellent knowledge of Learning Disability issues, or a proven ability to develop expertise in new areas quickly
- Experience of leading and coaching teams
- Ability to build strong, trusting professional relationships that last
- Commitment to Mencap's mission and values

Please note: This job description is not intended to be exhaustive. Duties and responsibilities may evolve over time to reflect the needs of the organisation and the role.



“This isn’t just a job - it’s a chance to help change the lives of people with a learning disability and their families. If you’re passionate about making a difference, join Mencap in building a more inclusive future.”

Mencap and our Commitment to Safeguarding

Mencap is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



We are **passionate**
about making the
world a better place



We are **positive**
in our work and
with each other



We are **brave**
we challenge and
try new things



We are **kind**
to everyone



We are **inclusive**
of everyone

Successful applicants will be subject to appropriate pre-employment checks, including references and, where applicable, an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.



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