



**AheadPartnership™**

**West Yorkshire**  
**Health and Care Partnership**  
Mental Health, Learning Disabilities & Autism



# **LEARNING DISABILITY NURSING EDUCATION ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME**

# THE PROJECT AT A GLANCE



**Over 2500**  
students have  
engaged through  
live activity



**10 schools** have  
been  
included in the  
programme –  
through core and  
wider programmes



**Over 30** Health  
and Care  
partners have  
taken part

Proposed outputs	Achieved	Target
Number of students engaged	Over 2,000	Over 1,800
Number of areas engaged	5	5

## SCHOOLS ENGAGED IN THE PROGRAMME

### Calderdale

- Brighouse High School
- The North Halifax Grammar School
- Calderdale College

### Kirklees

- Netherhall High School
- Honley High School
- Kirklees College

### Leeds

- Coop Academy Leeds
- Roundhay School
- Mount St May's

### Bradford

- Carlton Keighley
- Tong Leadership Academy

### Wakefield

- Castleford Academy
- Outwood Grange Academy





# THE PROJECT IN DETAIL

## OBJECTIVES

The objectives for the project itself were defined by the work group, and were as follows:

- To increase the number of young people pursuing a career in Learning Disability nursing.
- To increase awareness of learning disabilities generally.
- To engage with young people in Leeds, Bradford, Kirklees, Calderdale and Wakefield.

Working in collaboration with the Learning Disability workforce lead for West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership, we developed a festival approach that focussed messaging and resource across two "Exploring Learning Disability Nursing" festivals. New workshop and speaker materials were developed in collaboration with the workforce group. This means messaging was and will be consistent and uniform throughout school engagement activity.

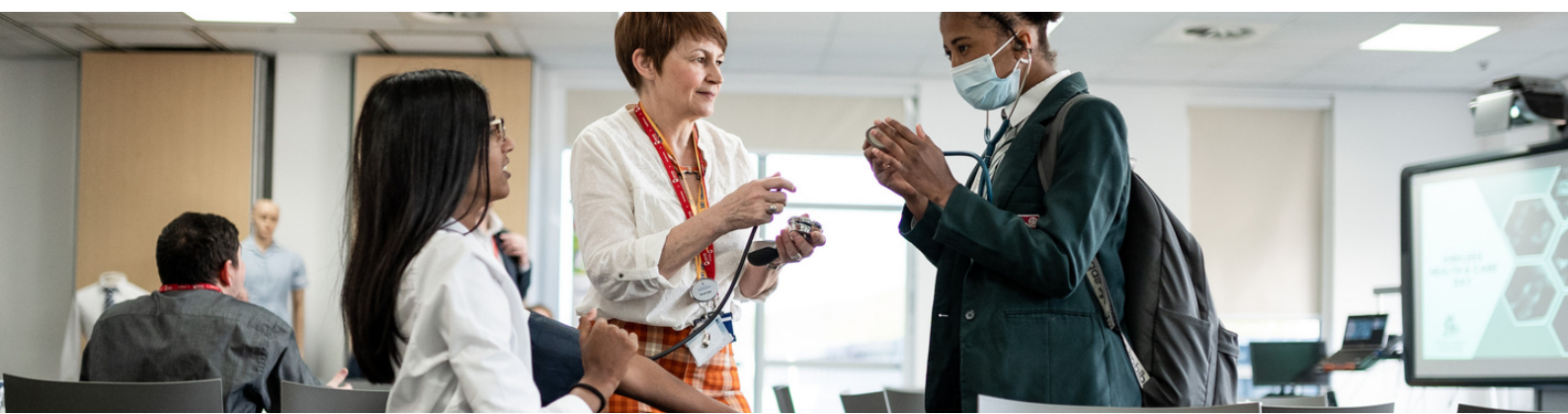
These interactive and informative two-week festivals were designed to be delivered through virtual and in-person activity across all five areas of West Yorkshire. This hybrid approach meant opportunities for volunteering were more accessible and achievable for teams across the area.

The festivals comprised of activity that we knew worked well from other programmes delivered in the sector. The hybrid programme involved **eight** virtual inspirational guests speakers. These short and informative sessions, fit perfectly into school assemblies and form time and the duration worked well for an initial introduction into this less well known strand of nursing.

To allow a deeper dive into Learning Disability Nursing, we also ran **nine** workshops that brought the discipline to life through interactive tasks and meeting volunteers within the roles. The tasks given to the students were developed to provide a "hands-on" experience of what Learning Disability Nurses may do as part of their day-to-day workload. This was done to identify the types of skills and qualities needed to work in this type of role. Activities included reading a service user's profile and mapping out what they may experience and what could be done to better support them and role-play activities that ask students to put themselves in service user and nurses' shoes.

As well as spotlighting Learning Disability Nursing, the programme also allowed for other associated roles to showcase how they support service users. This involved engagement from physios, dieticians, occupational therapists, and speech and language therapists.

As a values partner, volunteers also had the opportunity to engage with additional schools and colleges through other programmes run by Ahead Partnership. All content that has been developed for the programme will now be handed over to the workforce team who will continue to engage with local secondary schools across the region.



# WHAT THE PROGRAMME HAS ACHIEVED

## WHAT THE STUDENTS HAVE SAID



increased their understanding off the transferable skills needed to be a Learning Disability Nurse



learnt more about the roles available in Learning Disability nursing



clearly understood what a Learning Disability Nurse does



are more likely to consider becoming a Learning Disability nurse int he future



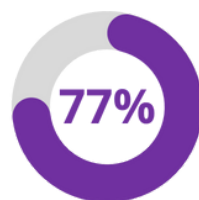
improved their self-belief and confidence



are motivated to work harder at school



developed their speaking and listening skills



developed their skills in representing themselves

"I liked how we got to put ourselves in the shoes of an LD nurse and service. It helped me understand this job more" - **student**

"The activity gave us lots of information and was good to have a go at a task that an LD nurse might do" - **student**

"I like that it helps us know more about nursing. She gave me the hope of becoming a nurse one day" - **student**

