



# Report it Right

## Guidelines for portraying people with disability

When a person lives with disability, it does not define who they are. People with disability are not one homogenous group. Always ask a person about their needs and their preference for how they would like to be referred to.



### Consider using

Has.. (the disability) Lives with.. (the disability)

People with disability Disability community

Person with lived experience of disability

People who are deaf The Deaf community

People who are hearing impaired

Non-verbal

A person living with epilepsy

People who are blind The Blind community

People who are vision impaired

Wheelchair user

A person with cerebral palsy

Seizure

Autism Autistic

Identity-first language, if preferred:

Autistic person

Person-first language:

Person with autism Person on the autism spectrum

### For example..



Mr Jamison, **who lives with cerebral palsy**, has been **a wheelchair user** for 10 years.



### Instead of

Suffers from Sufferer Victim

The disabled The handicapped Invalid

Special needs

The deaf A deaf person

Dumb

An epileptic

The blind Visually impaired

Confined to a wheelchair Wheelchair-bound

Cerebral palsy sufferer

Fit Attack Spell

Severe High functioning Low functioning

These are not official diagnostic terms, do not provide a constructive view of a person on the autism spectrum and do not speak to the specific challenges or abilities of the individual.



Mr Jamison **suffers from cerebral palsy** and has been **wheelchair-bound** for 10 years.