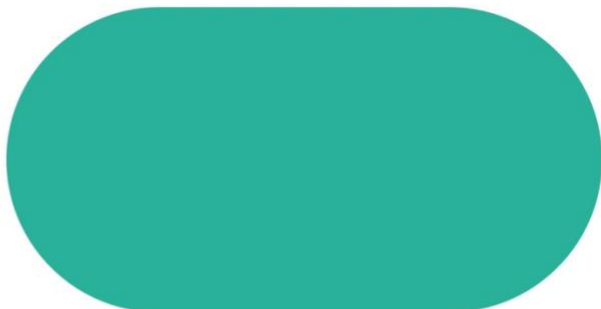




Down
Syndrome
Ireland

National Leadership Local Support

Down Syndrome Ireland Strategy 2026–2030



This is Easy Read information about a new strategy.

What is a strategy?



A strategy is a type of plan for a long time.



A strategy helps us choose our goals.



A strategy will help us choose what is most important.

Why does DSI need a new strategy?

Down Syndrome Ireland can be called DSI.



DSI wants to support people with Down syndrome.

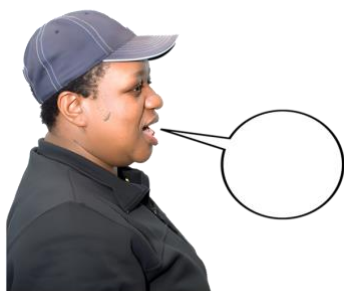
Support means help.



All people with Down syndrome have different needs and different goals.



Sometimes needs and goals change.



DSI needs a new strategy to support the needs and goals of people with Down syndrome.

Who is this new strategy for?



- Babies



- Children and young people



- Young adults



- Older adults

Who else is this new strategy for?

The new strategy can be for people like:



- Teachers and education staff



- Employers



- Doctors, nurses and other people who work in health care



- Speech and Language Therapists

How did DSI make a new strategy?



DSI talked to people with Down syndrome, their families, teachers, employers and others who want people with Down syndrome have a better life.



People told DSI what things are working well.



People told DSI what things are difficult.

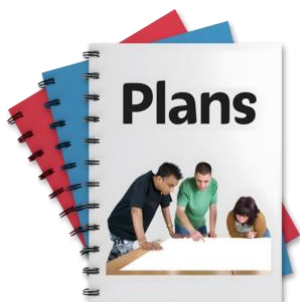


People told DSI their ideas to make things better.

How will DSI use the new strategy?



This new strategy is about the next five years.



The strategy will help DSI use our time and resources better.

Resources are things like money, staff and time.



The strategy will help DSI make our services and supports better.



The strategy will help DSI to tell the government what people with Down syndrome need.

The government is an elected group of people who make decisions and rules for a country.

What are the Strategy's values?

Our values help us to do the right thing.



1. Unity

It is important for people to work together.



2. Equity

People with Down syndrome have the same rights as everyone else.

Equity means having the same rights as everyone else.



3. Respect

Everybody with Down syndrome has the right to be treated well.

What are the Strategy's values?



4. Evidence

It is important to find out what works well. DSI supports research about Down syndrome.



5. Partnership

DSI works with other groups so we can do better work.



A very important partner for DSI is the government.

The government decides what services are provided in Ireland.

Priorities

Priorities are the things we think are the most important to work on.



There are 4 priorities in this plan.



Priority 1 - Information

To give people with Down syndrome and their families the information they need.



Priority 2 - Services

To help people with Down syndrome and their families get the support they need.

Priorities



Priority 3 - Advocacy

To make sure people with Down syndrome have the chance to speak for themselves.



To tell the government how to help people with Down syndrome and their families.



Priority 4 – Structure

To make sure DSI is well-organised.



To make sure people in DSI work as a team.

DSI plans to work on 7 topics.



1.Information



2.Access



3.Transition support



4.Employment and independence



5.Health, housing and transport

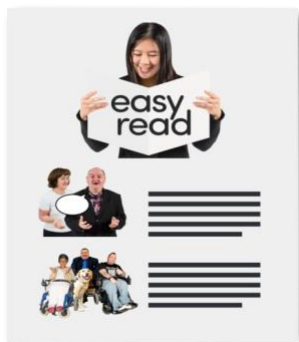


6.Safe places to talk



7.Being listened to

DSI plans to work on ...



1. Information

DSI will work to make it easy for people to get clear information.



2. Access

DSI will try to help people with Down syndrome and their families everywhere in Ireland.

Access means being able to get the services and supports you need.

DSI plans to work on ...



3. Transition Support

Transition is something in your life that changes like the move from school to college.

DSI wants to help people plan for adult life. It is important to know about things like:



- Day Services
- College
- Work



- DSI will advocate for better planning.

DSI plans to work on ...



4. Employment and Independence

Employment means work.



Independence means making your own choices and doing things yourself.



DSI will work with companies to get more jobs for people with Down syndrome.



DSI will work to help people with Down syndrome be more independent.

DSI plans to work on ...



5. Health, housing, transport

DSI will work with the government and other groups to make these things better for people with Down syndrome:



- Health



- Housing



- Transport

DSI plans to work on ...



6.Places to talk

DSI will work to have safe places for people with Down syndrome to talk.



7.Listening to people with Down syndrome

DSI will listen to people in the NAC and RACs, and other people with Down syndrome.

NAC means National Advisory Council.
RAC means Regional Advisory Council.

The NAC and RACs are the voice of people with Down syndrome.

You need to tell DSI if these things are getting better or worse:



- Speech and Language Therapy



- Jobs



- Housing and Independence



- Education



- Health and wellbeing

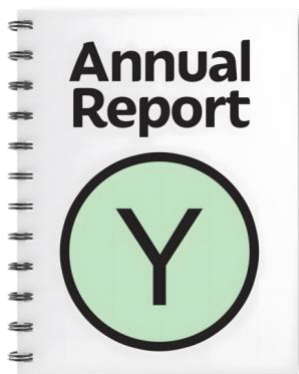


- Life in the community

How will DSI check if the strategy is working?



You need to tell DSI if the strategy is working for you.



DSI will share information about the strategy in our Annual Report.

An Annual Report is a report we write once a year to tell people what DSI does.



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