

Family Conference 2021

Breakout #2

Supporting and Building Healthy Peer Interactions and Relationships with Children who have Learning Disabilities.

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Although many children with LD and other challenges show a good ability to relate to their peers and develop meaningful friendships; some children do not. Research shows that children with learning problems are at higher risk for experiencing social difficulties. This talk will briefly review why the capacity to connect with others is important to an individual's mental health and well-being, and how social skills and understanding develop over time. Most importantly, I will cover the reasons why some children with LD's are more vulnerable to peer problems, how to recognize these problems, and what you and other important adults (like educators, coaches) in your child's life can do to support the growth of social competence.

Rose Freigang is a registered member of the College of Psychologists of Ontario with competence in the areas of Clinical and School Psychology. She is currently providing assessment, consultation and treatment services at Insight Psychology on Norfolk, a private practice here in Guelph. Rose has been working in the field of psychology for over 30 years in hospital, community agency, and private practice settings. She has a particular interest in and experience with ASD and other Neurodevelopmental Disorders, LD, and ADHD. Rose has a strong commitment to early intervention, optimizing strengths, and fostering independence as individuals move toward adulthood.