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# How Learning from Home Research Highlights the Need for Flexibility and Choice

This video article will present some key findings from [AHEAD's Learning from Home 2021 research report](#) which explores the pandemic learning experiences of more than 700 further and higher education students with disabilities.

The report is a follow-up to a similar 2020 report, with a one-year-on look at how experiences had changed. The findings highlight the huge diversity of both positive and negative experiences of pandemic learning and explore students' priorities for inclusion for post-Covid.

Through the collection of qualitative and quantitative data, AHEAD looked at how students coped with learning from home and examined their experiences of engaging with learning remotely. In particular, it looked at their engagement with teaching and support staff, how they navigated the digital learning landscape and their perceptions of the accessibility of the learning from home experience. Also explored were their preferences of learning modes and their priorities for the future. Ultimately, the research gives voice to the immensely diverse community of students with disabilities and gives us the opportunity to consider it as we plan for the future.

Video recorded as part of an AHEAD Member's Webinar on Nov 2nd 2021.

[Download the Full Report>>](#)



**Richard Healy**

Research and Policy Officer, AHEAD

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Richard is the new Research and Policy Officer at AHEAD, having taken up the role in May 2021. He has previously worked in Maynooth University, SURIA and for the Irish Prison Service, assisting prisoners post release to access employment and housing. Most of Richard's work previous to AHEAD has been based on the realization of human rights and the attainment of tangible entitlements for vulnerable people.



**Dara Ryder**

CEO, AHEAD

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Dara Ryder is Chief Executive Officer of AHEAD, having previously managed AHEAD's digital presence and developed a suite of online CPD programmes relating to inclusive practice in his role as Digital Media and eLearning Manager there.

After graduating from Queens University in 2005, Dara joined Dun Laoghaire College of Further Education as a lecturer, where he became interested in inclusive education when working first-hand with students with disabilities in his classroom. When the opportunity arose in 2008, he joined AHEAD where he has been working ever since on creating inclusive environments in education and employment for people with disabilities.

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This article appeared in the AHEAD Journal. Visit [www.ahead.ie/journal](http://www.ahead.ie/journal) for more information

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