

SEND Newsletter

Issue 14– April 2025



Dear Parents and carers,
Welcome to our April SEND and Inclusion newsletter. This newsletter we will be focusing on Autism as part of highlighting Autism Acceptance month in April.

Please remember if you have any concerns or questions please contact me through SEND@Ankermoor.org or **Speak to the office and I can arrange a meeting or phone call.**
Shirley-Anne Magill SENDCO

Please come and join us at the next
Parent Inclusion Meeting



Wednesday 30th April
2.30pm at Ankermoor Primary School

Please join us for an informal meeting with other parents - we will be celebrating autism acceptance months and looking at how we can support children with transitions. Refreshments will be provided.

For any questions please contact the school office or email send@ankermoor.org



SEND Individual Learning Plan Reviews

For pupils at Ankermoor who require additional support and are recorded on our SEND Register, Individual Learning Plans are in place. These plans will have focused and achievable targets which are personal to each individual child, enabling gaps to be closed and progress to be made. Class teachers will be completing reviews of current plans and will be sharing these with you and asking for your feedback. Your views are important.

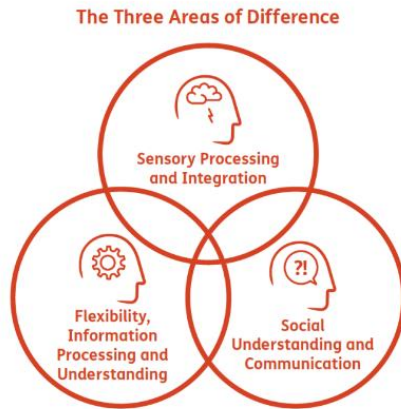
Please contact your class teacher or get in touch with me or Mr Hancox for more information.



About Autism

Being autistic does not mean you have an illness or disease. It means your brain works in a different way from other people. Autism is not a medical condition with treatments or a 'cure.' Instead, autism is a processing difference that can have an impact on many areas of a person's life.

Autistic people will experience differences in three key areas:



There is no 'typical' autistic person.

While autistic people share similar characteristics to some degree, they are also all different from each other. This is because autism is considered a spectrum. The autism spectrum is not linear from 'high' to 'low' but *varies* in every way that one person might vary from another.

Every autistic individual has their own strengths, differences and needs, their own life journey and their own unique story.

This is described by the Autistic Young Experts, in their own words, as follows:

'It's colourful and it paints the world in a different way - every individual on the spectrum has their own picture, or experience, of life'

(Saffron, Autistic Young Expert).

'A multi-layered, non-linear, interconnecting relationship of different attributes/traits'

(Annabel, Autistic Young Expert).

Autism Spectrum

The autism spectrum is not linear



Less autistic More autistic

The autism spectrum looks more like



With many different traits defining what autism is for an individual

For this reason, we should avoid using 'high/low functioning' and instead think of how these traits can fluctuate depending on circumstances

**Parent Information
World Autism Acceptance Month
April 2025**

The following is a range of resources created by the Social Communication and Autism Team from Derby Council.

“We are really excited to share a range of resources to help celebrate World Autism Acceptance Month. This year marks the 17th annual World Autism Awareness Day.

We feel it is so important that young people understand their diagnosis and we are passionate about Autistic people being understood by the people around them – World Autism Acceptance Month is a great opportunity to make this happen!”

National Autistic Society Resources

- Five ways you can get involved [NAS Info-for-parents WAAM25.pdf](#)
- Fundraise this World Autism Acceptance Month [World Autism Acceptance Month 2025](#)
- Spectrum Live [Spectrum Live](#)
- Stories from the spectrum [Stories from the spectrum](#)
- The Spectrum magazine [The Spectrum magazine](#)
- Exams – a guide for parents [Parents and carers](#)

Autism Education Trust Resources

- Early Years Transition Packs
[Early Years Transitions Parent Guide - Part 1 | Autism Education Trust](#)
[Early Years Transitions Parent Guide – Part 2 | Autism Education Trust](#)
[Early Years Transitions Parent Guide – Part 3 | Autism Education Trust](#)
- School Transitions Parent Packs
[School Transitions Parent Guide – Part 1 | Autism Education Trust](#)
[School Transitions Parent Guide – Part 2 | Autism Education Trust](#)
[School Transitions Parent Guide – Part 3 | Autism Education Trust](#)

Video clips to help parents and young people understand Autism

Making sense of your Autism Diagnosis (Secondary age appropriate)
[Making sense of your autism diagnosis - Patrick - YouTube](#)

Young People Explain Autism
[Young people explain autism | Ambitious about Autism - YouTube](#)

Inside our Autistic Minds
[BBC Two - Inside Our Autistic Minds](#)

Fast Facts About Autism for Kids
[Fast Facts About Autism For Kids \(World Autism Awareness Day\) - YouTube](#)

Fast Facts About Autism
[Fast Facts About Autism \(World Autism Awareness Day\) - YouTube](#)

We're Amazing. 1, 2, 3!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fl-Sk7_ykzU

[Pablo, Talking to your child about autism](https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/joinin/pablo-talking-to-your-child-about-autism)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/joinin/pablo-talking-to-your-child-about-autism>

Why Autism is a difference not a deficit

[Why Autism is a Difference, not a Deficit](#)

Amazing Things happen by Alexander Amelines

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RbwRrVw-CRo>

Amazing Kids, Amazing Things Project

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VAogdfYPstU>

BBC My Autism and Me

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ejpWWP1HNGQ>

Autism Myths and Facts [Autism myths and facts | Ambitious about Autism](#)

Courses for parents

See attached STEPS SCA Team flyer

Famous Autistic People

Lot's of Autistic people are successful. Below is a list of famous people who are autistic along with what they are famous for. You could ask your child, or family members to research these celebrities and help them to understand that everyone on the spectrum is different.

- *Tom Malone Jr*, Gogglebox TV Star
- *Tylan Grant*, Hollyoaks Actor
- *Sir Antony Hopkins*, American Film Star
- *Greta Thunberg*, Swedish Environmental Activist
- *Chris Packham*, English Naturalist, nature photographer, television presenter, author
- *Melanie Sykes*, English television, radio presenter and model
- *Anne Hegerty*, English quizzer and television personality
- *Emily Dickinson*, American Poet
- *Jessica – Jane Applegate*, British Paralympic swimmer
- *Guy Martin*, Former British motorcycle racer and heavy vehicle mechanic
- *James Durbin*, American singer and guitarist
- *Susan Boyle*, Scottish singer
- *Ladyhawke*, New Zealand singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist
- *Tim Burton*, American film director, producer, writer and artist
- *Steve Jobs*, American business magnate, industrial design, investor, media proprietor
- *Bill Gates*, American business magnate, software developer, investor, author and philanthropist
- *Albert Einstein*, Theoretical Physicist.
- *Daryl Hannah*, American actress and environmental activist
- *Heather Kuzmich*, American fashion model
- *Niall Aslam*, Appeared on reality TV show Love Island

Book Recommendations

- *Life Will Never Be Dull: The Little Book of Autism Adventures*, Deborah Brownson
- *15 things they forgot to tell you about autism*, Debbie Elly
- *A normal family: Everyday adventures with our autistic Son*, Henry Normal
- *Nobody Nowhere*, Donna Williams
- *Giggle Time – Establishing the Social Connection: A Program to Develop the Communication Skills of Children with Autism*, Julia Moore
- *The little book of autism FAQs: How to talk with your child about their diagnosis and other conversations*, Davida Hartman
- *A parent's guide to autism diagnosis: what to expect and how to support your child*, Adele Devine



Parent/Carer Cause for Concern

This form is for parents who want to raise a new concern regarding their child in relation to Special Educational needs.

Please email to SEND@Ankermoor.org to return to Mrs Magill, SENDCO

Child's Name: **D.O.B:** **Class:**

Child's strengths and achievements:

Concerns at home:

Concerns at school:

Parent/Carer information:

A description of all available information about your child.

Areas of concern:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visual | <input type="checkbox"/> Auditory | <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Speech |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emotional | <input type="checkbox"/> Behaviour | <input type="checkbox"/> Attendance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physical | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical | <input type="checkbox"/> Punctuality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social | <input type="checkbox"/> Eating | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please state): |

Signed: **Date:**