



How we can help

What is autism?

Autism is a disability that lasts your whole life.

People with autism find it hard to make sense of the world. To them it is just a mess of people, places and events.

They find it hard to understand other people. Taking part in family life and making friends can be hard for people with autism.

Going to school is one of the biggest challenges for people with autism.

How many people have autism?

1 out of every 100 people (including children and young people) have autism.

Why do we need the Autism Education Trust?

More children with autism are asked to leave school than others.

Many of them are asked to leave from more than one school.

Children with autism get bullied in school more often than others.

They get mental health problems more often than other children.

The government gives a lot of money every year for schools to support children with autism.

But the people who decide how this money is spent need to have good information and advice about autism.

That is what we do best.

What is the Autism Education Trust?

We started in 2007 with support from the government's Department for Children, Schools and Families.

We support teaching people with autism in England.

What does the Autism Education Trust plan to do?

We plan to:

- **tell as many people as possible that children with autism need teaching that is made to suit their needs**
- **bring together organisations that think the same as us to share ideas**
- **involve people with autism and their families in getting out information and support to make teaching people with autism better**

We will do this by:

- **getting up to date information about what is going on around autism and schools**
- **sharing ideas to support school children with autism**
- **being the link between people with autism and their families, professionals, government and people who make decisions about teaching people with autism**

What are we doing now?

We looked at how people with autism are being taught in schools all over England.

You can see what we found out on our website:

www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk

The work helped us to:

- **set up a website to give information for parents, professionals and young people with autism**
- **set up groups that give people with autism a say in what we do**
- **set up a Youth Council for children and young people with autism to get involved in what we do**
- **do more work to find out what children with autism need in school**
- **find better ways for parents and young people with autism to get support**

To find out more

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