



# Research Summary

**Easy Read Version**



# How the autism education trust can help



The Autism Education Trust (AET) began in 2007 after lots of organisations said that there needed to be better education for all children on the autism spectrum.



This leaflet tells you about the changes parents, professionals and young people would like to see in education.

To find out more you can visit the Autism Education Trust at:



**[www.autsimeducationtrust.org.uk](http://www.autsimeducationtrust.org.uk)**

## The Autism Education Trust will:



- Set up a website with information and advice about the autism spectrum.
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- Set up an Advisory Council and Youth Council to give parents, professionals, children and young people a voice.
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- Set up groups for children and young people on the autism spectrum to help them make decisions about their education.
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- Pay an organisation to look at all of the things children and young people on the autism spectrum should be able to do in their lives.
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- Look at different ways to contact parents, families, children and young people on the autism spectrum.
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# Every child is different



Education helps children and young people learn skills for when they grow up.

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It is really important that everyone involved in education understands the needs of every child or young person and works with them so that they can learn all of the skills they need.

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## Children or young people on the autism spectrum need:



- A setting that is calm and well planned.
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- To know what is happening - especially when people are in transition (moving from children's services to adult services).
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- To be talked to and included in decisions about education.
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# Families need support and understanding



Parents of children on the autism spectrum have to spend a lot of time telling other people about the things their child can do and the things they need help with. Parents also have problems getting schools to be flexible.

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## Parents and carers want:



- More information about their choices and where they can get help and support.



- Better plans and advice.



- To be included in schools.



- People to know that parents are “experts” – they know more about their child than anyone else.
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# Professionals need to know more and have better plans



Professionals working with children or young people on the autism spectrum need to know more about the different ways to communicate with that child or young person.

## Professionals want:



- To know more about autism and have good advice and training.



- To know more about how to help children who need more support.



- To be able to use specialist services - like speech and language therapists and occupational therapists.



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### **For more information:**

The Autism Education Trust  
393 City Road  
London EC1V 1NG



**Tel:** 07795 667749



**Email:** [info@autismeducationtrust.org.uk](mailto:info@autismeducationtrust.org.uk)

**[www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk](http://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk)**