

# A PARENTS GUIDE TO...

## Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, ASD & ASC

### What is Autism?

Autism is a spectrum condition. Autistic people share certain difficulties, but are affected in different ways. Terms used in diagnosis include Autism, Autism spectrum disorder (ASD), Autism spectrum condition (ASC), Asperger syndrome and Pathological demand



### How might my child display this?

#### You may notice:

- Uneven ability profile, with some subjects much stronger, others much weaker
- Anxiety, particularly in relation to change or unexpected events; preference for routines; some obsessive sequences
- Some over-literal and perhaps inflexible patterns of thought
- Difficulties with appropriate communication—over formal or too informal; in some cases, mutism
- “Young” ways of thinking around fairness and justice - can't make allowances
- Struggles to empathise —doesn't recognise others' viewpoints — social misunderstandings.



### Where can I find useful information?

Autism in its various forms is a lifelong condition, though individuals often find strategies and coping mechanisms to deal with it better as they age. However during times of high stress and pressure, their well-established techniques can fall away and individuals with autism can find themselves struggling again.

The autism specialists listed below help individuals of all ages. They are able to provide information, advice and guidance around the subject of autism well into adulthood. This means that, although you may no longer get direct support in the way the school provides, there are still specialists available to offer their expertise on the subject.



### Who can I contact at the school for advice?

Assistant Headteacher, ASD Provision, SENCo– Mrs G Reed: [greed@thelangton.kent.sch.uk](mailto:greed@thelangton.kent.sch.uk)

We have a team of staff dedicated to supporting the needs of students with ASD, within the mainstream and more formally through a specialist resourced provision on site called 'Base'. Please contact the Base staff for further information about the schools support for students with ASD.