

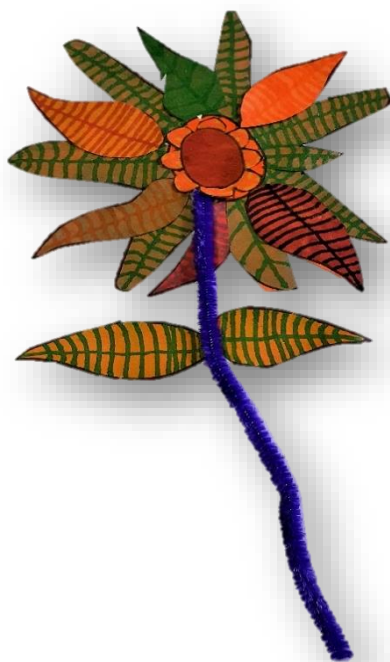
Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership and Aberdeenshire Council Education and Children's Services

Autism Strategy

Aberdeenshire Autism Strategy for Children, Young People and Adults 2023-2028

An Easy Read Version

(full copy also available at [Aberdeenshire Autism Strategy for Children, Young People and Adults 2023-2028 | Engage Aberdeenshire](#))



'Artwork by a member of the Connect 'N' The Broch Fraserburgh Day Opportunities, February 2023'

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Introduction



Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership,

provide care and support in the place where you live.

Aberdeenshire Council's Education and Children's Service,

Support and protect children.

They also look after schools and nurseries.



We have created an Autism Strategy.

We asked the Aberdeenshire autistic community to help us with this.





A **strategy** is a plan.

It is a plan of work we want to do.



Our plan will take 5 years.



Our strategy is to improve autism support and services for:

- Children
- Young people
- Adults
- and older adults.



Lots of people helped us to make the strategy. They were:

- The autistic community
- People from charities
- Professionals.

What do we know?



Lots of autistic people and their families live in Aberdeenshire.



People have Autism for their whole life.



People with Autism process information differently.



People with autism sometimes communicate and interact differently.



Every autistic person is different.



More people are being diagnosed with autism by healthcare professionals.

Some people just know they are autistic. This is **self-identifying**.



We want to understand autism better, so that we can improve how we support people in the autistic community.



We want to support people working in our organisation,

And it organisations that work with the autistic community.

An **organisation** is a group of people who work together.

What will we work on?



We asked people from the autistic community some questions.



This helped us to make our strategy.

We found 7 things that were the most important to people with Autism.

1. Whole Lifespan.



- Autistic people should be supported for their whole life.
- We want support and services for all autistic people, their families and carers.
- We want people to have the right support at the right time.
- Support should come from organisations and the community.





2. Diagnostic Pathways.

- We want autistic people to have a diagnosis as soon as possible.
- We want autistic people to be given all of the information, and help that they need.



Training Room

3. Training.

We want the people who work in our organisations to know how best to support autistic people.



4. Lifelong Learning.

We want autistic people to be able to learn in a way that is best for them.



Workplace

5. Employment.

We want to make it easier for autistic people to have jobs.



6. Connecting.

We want to make sure that autistic people, and those that support them, know about the services that can help them.



7. Community.

- We want the autistic community to get the most from their community.
- We want the community to know more about autism and how to support autistic people.

What next?



We have made an action plan.

This is a list of things we need to do.



We will work of the 7 things that are most important to the autistic community.



We will speak to people living with autism.

We will listen to what they have to say.



We will listen to what staff have to say.



There will be a lot of work to do.



If you have any questions you can email us at:

autismstrategy@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

You can also visit our website at:

<https://engage.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/towards-an-autism-strategy-for-aberdeenshire>



If you would like this document in a different format, or would like some more information,

please email us at:

aberdeenshireHSCP@aberdeenshire.gov.uk