


Dudley

## Dudley Autism Outreach Service

Cygnet Introduction to Parent  
Workshop on ASD  
Week 1  
27<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Ruth Heeks  
Linda Hale

Saltwells Education Centre



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## Introduction


- Ruth Heeks, Family Adviser for AOS
- Linda Hale, Specialist Teaching Assistant
- Housekeeping

Week 1 Introduction to ASD and diagnosis  
Week 2 Communication  
Week 3 Sensory differences  
Week 4 Understanding behaviour  
Week 5 Managing behaviour  
Week 6 Group choice

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## Welcome

- Please come every week!! 10.00 a.m
- Let everybody have their say
- Listen respectfully to views of others
- Not to talk when someone else is
- Try and participate
- Treat what is said in confidence



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## Aims

- Increase your understanding of autism
- Help you understand what motivates a child's behaviour
- Suggest strategies you may find helpful to try with your child
- Direct and signpost to other services and resources
- Meet with other parents

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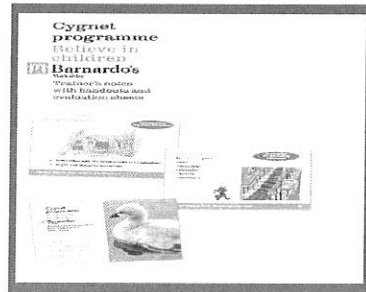
## Importance of understanding your child

NAS Early Bird 2-4yrs (early diagnosis needed)

Barnardo's Cygnet 5-17. Very wide but influenced us to put this course together.

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## Barnardo's Cygnet Programme










More recognition

## Diagnosis

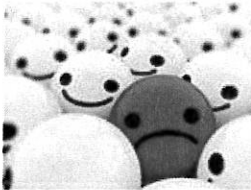
Good thing?

Many families feel a sense of relief. May have been going through the process for some time.

## Diagnosis

- Bad thing



## Diagnosis

Relief or Devastation - it will have an impact on most people.



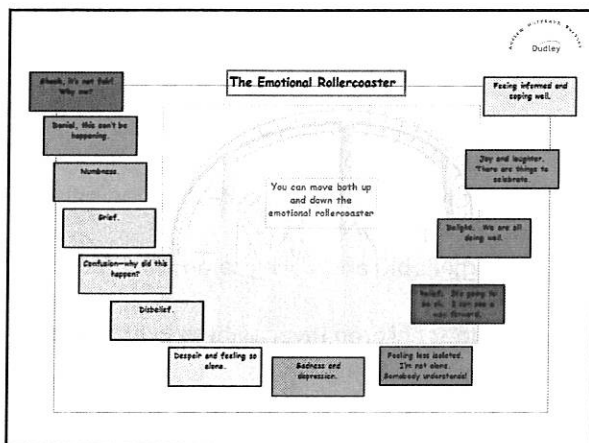
Film clip from Autism Trust Receiving & Understanding

Luke and Luke's dad

Jonathan's mom


Helen's mom


Handout poems welcome to Holland/ Amsterdam international

## Quiz


So what do you know?





### Active but odd child may;

- try hard to socialise but may lose the plot because they are unaware of the unwritten rules of social play such as turn-taking
- try and engage adults but do so in a one-sided manner and ignore, or are aggressive towards children of their own age
- appear to lack empathy or awareness of others feelings
- May demand attention



### Over formal child may;

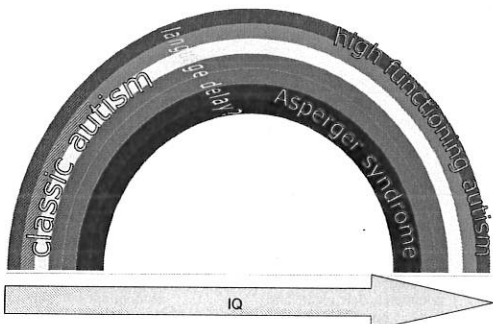
- be excessively polite and formal in their behaviour
- stick rigidly to the rules of social interaction
- lack understanding of others thoughts and feelings

Usually associated with those that have a good level of language

### Autism is .....


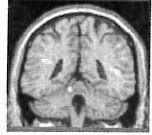
- Lifelong
- A pervasive developmental disorder involving a biological or neurological difference (Pervasive- to spread throughout , especially subtly or gradually permeate)
- Affects around 1% of the population
- 4:1 males to females (7:1 AOS)
- A spectrum condition
- Genetically linked
- Associated with unusual responses to sensory stimuli

### Autism Spectrum Condition

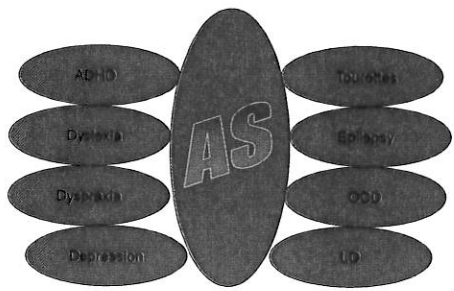


A rainbow spectrum diagram showing the range of Autism Spectrum Conditions. From left to right, the segments are labeled: classic autism, atypical autism, Asperger syndrome, and high-functioning autism. Below the rainbow is a horizontal arrow pointing to the right, labeled 'IQ', indicating that IQ generally increases from left to right across the spectrum.

### Results of brain scans studying faces

Control Group Bilateral amygdala	
Autism Group Bilateral temporal cortex	


### Associated with other conditions



A central oval labeled 'AS' is surrounded by eight other conditions: ADHD, Tourette's, Dyslexia, Epilepsy, Dyspraxia, OCD, Depression, and LD.

**Recent interpretations**

**Systemizers vs Empathizers**



*"The Essential Difference" – Simon Baron-Cohen 2004*

**Homework (if you want some!)**

Visit:

[www.bbc.co.uk/science/humanbody/sex/add\\_user.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/science/humanbody/sex/add_user.shtml)

or Google search  
bbc male female brain

*ZERO DEGREES OF EMPATHY  
- NEW BOOK*

**SEX I.D. (find out how your mind works!)**

Science explains the differences between 'women's brains' and 'men's brains' and how they affect the way you think.

Find out more about 'Sex I.D.' introduced by leading brain scientist Simon Baron-Cohen, and questions asked by neurologists in the BBC Four TV series *Secrets of the Brain*.

- Did a brain scan tell you you're like a man or a woman?
- Are you a 'genius' (top 10% of the population) and how do you know?
- Did you know you're a 'genius' (top 10% of the population) and how do you know?
- Did you know you're a 'genius' (top 10% of the population) and how do you know?

**Let's get started**

You no longer have to be a genius to be a genius. We'll need your first name or a nickname so we can recognize you for legal purposes only.

DATA provided: The information you enter in the test or assessment and cannot be used to identify you.

name:

**Imagine . . .**


- Imagine what it feels like to be alone in a foreign country, lost in a crowd of 2,000. Picture your confusion as you struggle through a chaotic middle of legs, faces and bodies.
- Imagine trying to find your way through the crowd with only jumbled signposts to follow and directions which you can only partially understand...

*For a child with an autism spectrum condition, ordinary situations can feel just like this. But as they try to make sense of the world around them, they face the added problem of feeling that they are 'different.'*

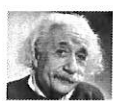


**Having Asperger's syndrome –**

'this means he or she is not mad, bad or defective, but has a different way of thinking.'



'Someone who has autism has a brain that is wired differently which can lead to amazing talents and achievements.'



Tony Attwood