



Autism Guernsey
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Our Patron is Lady Kathryn Corder

Registered Charity No: CH149

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Services for Adults (18 and over)

This leaflet is for adults who have a diagnosis of autism or who think they may have autism.

Ensuring a positive future for autism

WHAT IS AUTISM?

Autism is a life-long neurological developmental condition that primarily impacts upon individuals in several key areas:

- **Social communication**
- **Social interaction**
- **Social imagination**
- **Sensory and information processing**

We use the term Autism to represent all conditions that fall under the autism spectrum, including Asperger's Syndrome.

Autism is not a mental illness. However, it is not uncommon for people with autism to experience emotional health difficulties, especially anxiety.

As understanding has grown, individuals are more likely to be diagnosed in childhood. However, this has not always been the case and there should be no age limit on diagnosis.

More than **1 in 100**
people have **autism**

GETTING INVOLVED

There are a number of ways that you or your organisation may be able to get involved with or support the work of Autism Guernsey.

- **Volunteer**
- **Fundraising** – We organise various fundraising events. Your support at these events is always appreciated, and donation of raffle prizes welcomed.

If you would like to support us by organising your own fundraising event, please do let us know.
- **Corporate support** – We are always keen to hear from individuals or organisations who can support us.
- **Donate** – If you wish to make a donation there are various ways of doing so:
 - ◆ Via the **www.giving.gg** link on our website
 - ◆ Become a **Friend of Autism Guernsey**
 - ◆ **Cheque** made payable to 'Autism Guernsey LBG'
 - ◆ Join our **Lottery** (over 16s only)

For information about any of the areas detailed above, please contact us or see our website.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Autism Guernsey was formed as a company limited by guarantee (LBG) with charitable status.

Day to day running of the service is overseen by the **Autism Services Manager**.

Other **Team members** include: Adult Outreach Coordinator, Support Workers, Office Manager, and Volunteers.

Our **Board** comprises: Chair and Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Clinical Director, and a number of additional Directors and Advisors.

Most of the Board members and advisors have a personal or professional connection to autism.

Autism Guernsey receives no statutory funding, and relies on financial grants, donations and fundraising in order to ensure the sustainability of the charity.

WHAT DOES AUTISM GUERNSEY DO?

Launched in Autumn 2012 Autism Guernsey is an independent charity dedicated to improving the lives of those affected by autism in the Bailiwick.

This not only includes individuals diagnosed with the condition, but anyone whose life is impacted by autism. As a Guernsey charity all funds raised go towards work carried out in the Bailiwick.

Our aims are:

- To provide high **quality, professional** services and support
- To create an empowered, knowledgeable and connected **autism community**
- To promote **joint working initiatives** across statutory, charity, private and voluntary bodies including **policy development**

WHAT WE DO

- **Outreach (Person Centred Service)** – The Outreach Service provides direct one to one support to individuals with autism and their families. For example, general issues relating to autism and strategies to keep safe, maintaining relationships with family and friends, developing social skills, managing sensory differences.
- **Interests Group** – This user led group provides an opportunity for adults with autism to meet and share interests. At the monthly meeting individuals collaboratively identify activities of interest for the upcoming month and plan get togethers.
- **Socialeyes** - This programme is an innovative approach to learning social skills and developing social understanding for people on the autism spectrum. It is more suitable for adults with Asperger's Syndrome, however it can be adapted for other individuals on the autism spectrum.

- **The Outcome Star** – The Outcome Star is a tool that enables adults, families and their support worker to identify an individual's support needs. It has 9 core areas and is a visual tool that looks at developing life skills.

Autism Guernsey also provides a range of services and activities for children and young people. Please see separate leaflet or contact us for details.