

Checking our Autism Plan for all ages (2021 to 2026) is fair to everyone



**easy
read**



This document is the easy read version of Surrey County Council report titled Equality Impact Assessment of All Age Autism Strategy. The full report can be found on the [Local Offer](#) and Surrey's [Adults Autism Partnership Board](#) websites.



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In this easy read document, difficult words are in **bold**. We explain what these words mean in the sentence after they have been used.



Some words are [blue and underlined](#). These are links which will go to another website which has more information.

Introduction



This document is from Surrey County Council.



We made a plan about what we want to do in Surrey to make life better for autistic children, young people and adults.



We checked to see if this plan is fair to people who often don't get a fair chance. This is our report.

Being fair to everyone



The law says we have to treat everyone fairly.



The law says we must not be unfair to people because of their:

- age.



- disability including autism.



- sex, gender, or because they have changed their gender.



- pregnancy or because they have a new baby.



- race, colour or because they come from a different country.



- religion or belief.



- sexual orientation. This is whether they are gay, straight or something else.



- marriage or civil partnership.



- role as a carer.

What is our plan for autistic children, young people and adults?



Our plan is to help make different areas of life better for people with autism.



The plan will also help people who are a carer for an autistic person.

5 areas for change

We have split the plan into 5 areas that need to change:



1. Information and understanding more about autism.



2. Early years education settings, schools, colleges and getting ready to be an adult.



3. Health and social care.



4. Housing and living independently.



5. Having a job.

How our Autism Plan for all ages (2021 to 2026) will affect people who often don't get a fair chance



We found that our plan will be positive for the following people:



- Autistic children, young people and adults.



- The families and carers of autistic children, young people and adults.



The plan will also be positive for:

- staff in education, health and social care.
- our own council staff.





- staff in public services, like the police.



- staff in independent services and charities who provide support to autistic children, young people and adults.



- staff in social and community places, like gyms and shops.



- the general public.

All these groups of people will include people who often don't get a fair chance to be involved.

How will autistic children, young people and adults be affected?

We found the positive effects for autistic children, young people and adults will be:



- Feeling listened to and included.



- Improved health and wellbeing.



- Knowing where to find information.



- Being included in education.



- Better access to housing.



- Not having to wait so long for a doctor to say whether you have autism.



- Better access to mental health services.



- Opportunities to have a job.



- Buildings being more accessible.



- Better access to health services for autistic women who are pregnant or have a new baby.



- Help to include autistic fathers when their partner is pregnant or has a new baby.



- Better access to services for autistic children, young people and adults from different ethnic backgrounds.



- Better access to services for autistic children, young people and adults who have different religions or beliefs.



- Services that look at what autistic women and girls need.



- Better access to services for autistic people who are gay, lesbian, bi or another sexuality.

How will the families and carers of autistic children, young people and adults be affected?

We found the positive effects for the families and carers of autistic children, young people will and adults be:



- Better understanding of the needs of their autistic family member and how to support them



- Improved support for carers of autistic children, young people and adults.



- Improved support for carers who are autistic themselves.

How will all staff groups that are involved be affected?

We found the positive effects for all staff groups that are involved will be:



- Better understanding and awareness of autism.



- Better understanding of how to support autistic children, young people and adults.



- Being able to make changes that will support autistic children, young people and adults.



- Support for staff with autism.



- Hiring more staff with autism.

What changes have we made to our Autism Plan for all ages (2021 to 2026)?



From this report we made some changes to our plan for autistic children, young people and adults in Surrey.



We have now included in our plan:

- Considering autistic children, young people and adults when we make decisions about **COVID-19**.

COVID-19 is an illness that is spreading around the world. It can affect your lungs and breathing.



- Supporting autistic children, young people and adults in getting the **COVID-19 vaccine**.

A **vaccine** is an injection or jab that helps to stop you being ill with a certain illness.



- Working together with groups and communities to raise awareness of autistic children, young people and adults.

The groups and communities will include:



- people from Black, Asian and other ethnic groups.



- people in different religious or faith groups.



- people from the lesbian, gay, bi and other communities.

Did we find any negative effects of our plan?



Our report did not find that:

- there were any negative effects



- any groups of people were left out of our plan.

More information



For more information, please go to:

- the [Surrey Local Offer](#) website.
- the [Surrey Adults Autism Partnership Board](#) website.

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