

Day Services



About us

For over 50 years, Autism Together has been providing support to autistic people, offering a wide range of residential services, supported living, day services and community support from our base in Wirral, UK.

Research has shown that structured support can really make a difference to the life of an autistic person. Every person on the autism spectrum is unique, so we work with each individual to help them overcome any difficulties autism may present them with, enabling them to lead a more fulfilling life.

As a specialist autism provider, our organisation recognises that each person has a right to live their life as they choose.

We create a shared understanding of each person's strengths and needs, ensuring their preferred way of communicating these is respected and implemented by all our staff.

Our support approaches and strategies are focused on developing lifelong learning, helping to develop people's skills by considering their communication needs, thinking patterns, social understanding and sensory differences.

OUR SUPPORT SERVICES:

- We support people of all ages and abilities.
- The people we support have a diagnosis of autism spectrum condition and/or additional needs.
- We believe in providing a person-centred approach to support.
- We will not treat you any differently because of your race, sexuality or cultural beliefs.
- We will always respect your individuality.

OUR VALUES



Positive communication



Promote learning



To be person-centred



To be respectful

Support Journey

Right support, Right time, Right location



Joining autism together ▶

Our staff are knowledgeable, experienced and ready to support autistic people right through their journey with Autism Together. Our team gets to know the person we are supporting, using a functional and ongoing assessment of their needs. Following the assessment, we will recommend individually-tailored autism approaches to support the person, along with an appropriate placement, depending on their needs, in our Residential, Supported Living, or Day Services.

Circle of support

- Family
- Social Services
- Health
- Friends
- Support staff

Residential Care

Our Residential service offers registered residential care in a variety of different types of housing across Wirral and Cheshire.

We work with the people we support to help each individual lead as fulfilling and meaningful a life as possible, through a specifically-tailored package of support which involves a full daytime, evening and weekend programme.

People we support can move between Residential care and Supported Living, depending on their needs

Supported Living

Autism Together's Supported Living service provides individualised support for autistic adults in a community setting.

Working with registered social landlords, we offer bespoke homes for autistic adults in a variety of housing models, from single flats to shared accommodation.

Reducing support needed and staffing

Living in own flat in community

Making the move from Residential to Supported Living

Day Services

Our range of Day Services are about offering autistic people meaningful, realistic and achievable training, on the job work experience and valuable life skills. These structured, person-centred programmes offer the necessary communication strategies and support plans, enabling the person to develop independently, safely and confidently. Activities include...

Creative Arts
Environmental
Health & Wellbeing
Performing Arts
Social Enterprise

Moving from Day Services to community-based services

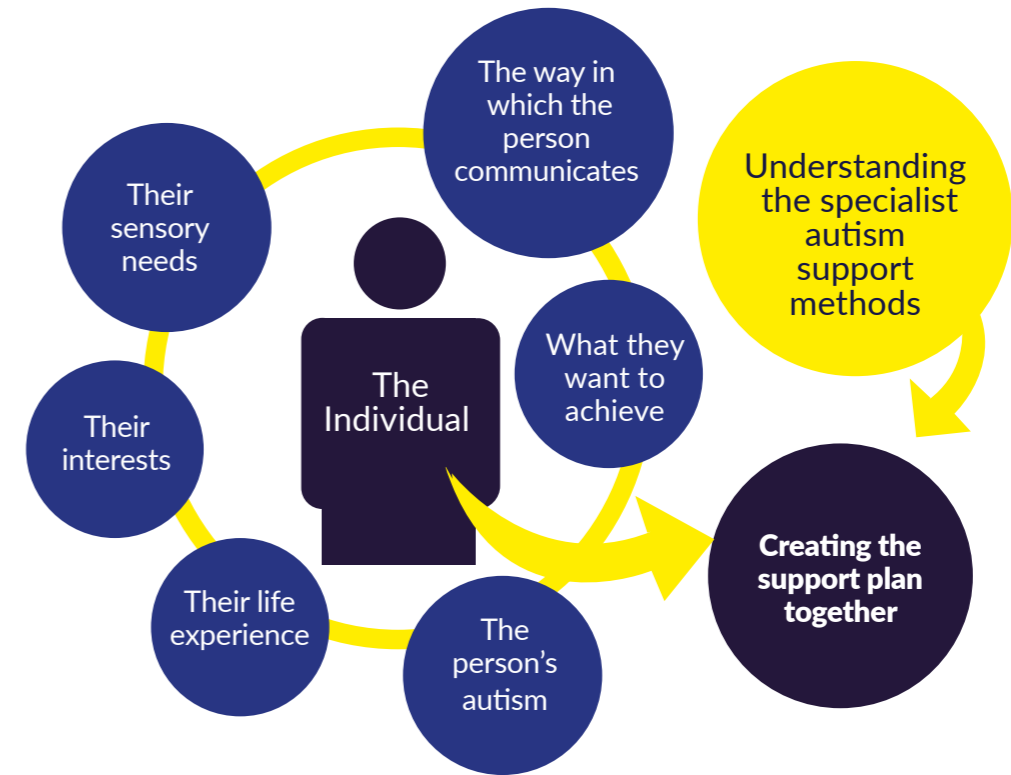
Work experience in the community

We celebrate positive outcomes with the people we support and their circle of support. We encourage people to reach beyond their current achievements and aim for the extraordinary.



	Right support	Right time	Right location
Residential Care	<p>People with any level of support needs can live in residential care, generally they are people that need support around them at all times.</p>	<p>Support needs vary throughout a person's life and as people's needs change. People can become frailer and develop physical disabilities, people can become more independent and they may need less support and it might be appropriate for them to move into more independent accommodation.</p>	<p>We have many settings in residential care – some of our residential care homes are designed for highly complex individuals that need intensive support in bespoke settings. In contrast to this, we have community residential care homes that don't even look like care homes. You won't find any signs outside any of our houses telling you that they are care homes.</p>
Supported Living	<p>Supported living isn't just for people that are able to live completely independently, it's for everyone. The most important thing is having just the right level of support for the person in place. This can be just a few hours a week or can be intensive two to one support at all times.</p>	<p>Support needs for individuals change throughout their lives, sometimes they need more support and sometimes they need less. This often depends on what is happening in their lives – times of change might mean that we need to increase someone's support but, equally, people can become more independent.</p>	<p>It's important that people live near their family and friends and in areas and communities that are right for them.</p>
Day Services	<p>Different levels of support within day services allows people to access the most appropriate support for their needs. By using people's motivators to teach skills, we are able to ensure people are engaged.</p>	<p>Day services is often a good step following people leaving school and to provide meaningful occupation during a person's day. Day services can help to provide respite to families that are caring for people with complex needs.</p>	<p>Sometimes, day services may no longer be the right setting for the people we support. Our aim is for people to live ordinary lives in the community, this includes going out to work and accessing their own local community.</p>

Creating a support plan together



Getting to know a person, and then using that individual's preferred method of communication to help co-produce their assessment, are the first steps of the 'Together Approach' model.

The Together Approach starts from the point of contact, through triage, gathering information of what activities could be suitable for the individual wanting to access our services. We will then send out an 'Expression of Interest form'.

The next step is to apply a strengths-based assessment framework, to determine and protect the person's independence, ability to make choices and their wellbeing. Offering this holistic approach

enables us to establish and consider what the person wants to achieve, what are their hobbies, dreams and aspirations. It also helps us understand if the individual has any sensory sensitivities, what environmental factors might impact upon them, how their autism presents and what their life experience has been so far.

Involving families and professionals around the person, and working in partnership to develop the assessment, can be fundamental to the final decision of whether Autism Together can meet that person's individual needs and offer suitable support provision.

About Day services



Our Day Services is about offering autistic people a person-centred support-led service with opportunities to input and design their own support journey.

These structured, person-centred programmes offer the necessary communication strategies and support plans to enable a person to develop independently, safely and confidently.

Day Services follows a pathway that works alongside the support journey in our other services, using the different 'streams' that we have designed. A person will be placed into a certain stream based upon their personal needs and individual support journey.



STREAMS

Sensory

This stream will be personalised to an individual who may need a more sensory-based service. Activities will be adapted to address sensory needs and individuals will be able to participate in activities that stimulate their interests. These activities will always have an outdoor-based activity included in them.



Skills Development The activities under this curriculum will develop skills and offer experiences to all. These activities will be structured to enable people to move through the service and onto the next stream, giving more opportunities.

Work Skills These activities will be aimed at individuals who want to work more independently on tasks. The sessions will be designed to be more complex than the ones in the skills development stream and will be aimed at promoting skills that could be transferred to the Pathway to Work stage.

These sessions are underpinned by a range of achievement awards that people we support can work towards. We have our own Awards Co-ordinator who will support everyone to achieve various awards linked to the activities they choose to participate in. These awards are given in recognition for completing ASDAN, John Muir, Gateway and e-learning courses.

Pathway to Work

This stage is for individuals who would like to look at employment opportunities and potentially progress to paid employment. These sessions will again be person-centred and designed to build the skills needed to access employment.

The Pathway to Work coordinator will work closely with a group of individuals to support them to choose employment opportunities – this may start with volunteering.

We have flexible opportunities across Wirral in various locations, designed to suit the needs of all the people we support, with services offering a varied timetable of activities.

Sessions include:

- **Animal Care** working with alpacas, goats, pigs, chickens and guinea pigs.
- **Art**
- **Café**
- **Community-based excursions**
- **Cooking & life skills**
- **Dance & performing arts**
- **Gym**
- **Media**
- **Music**
- **Photography**
- **Use of machinery,** including tractors, ride on mowers, drills, strimmers.

How we support You

ASSESSING YOUR NEEDS

We need to find out more about you...



What are you passionate about?



What are your hobbies?



What are your dreams for the future?



We need to know about your health



What do you like?



What don't you like?

OUR STAFF AND MANAGERS

Our staff and managers receive specialist training about autism and how to support you. You will meet friendly faces who are interested and invested in you.

How will the service be funded?

Support costs are the costs for the support from Autism Together. Each fee will be based on individual assessment of what support the person requires from Autism Together.

Your fees Support fees are generally paid by and agreed with either your local authority or health commissioners, depending on what level of support you need. All support fees are paid to Autism Together's finance department, who then deal with all finance issues.



Accessing Autism Together's services



We accept enquiries for our Day Services from individuals, their families and any professionals involved. Prior to making enquiries for support, you should have received a Care Act Assessment. If you have not then

you should contact your local authority to request this. Your local authority can look at what kind of support you need and if they will help fund it. Once you have a Care Act Assessment, the following steps take place:

Pathway to access our services...

1 Firstly, there is a telephone triage to find out about the individual and ask if they have a social worker. An 'Expression of Interest' form will be shared.

2 The social worker will share their most recent assessment.

3 A tour is booked of the service/stream which might best meet the individual's needs and interests.

4 Arrange to start the assessment process and understand how the person would like to be involved in their assessment.

5 If a suitable placement is available, a formal offer is made in writing to the local authority.

6 If placement within Autism Together is recommended but currently unavailable, there is the option for the individual to be placed on a list until a placement becomes available, or there is the option to explore other service providers.

7 Once the local authority has approved our formal offer, a transition meeting is arranged to agree a start date and put the person-centred support package in place.



For further enquiries please contact:

Admissions Team: ☎ 0151 482 3126

✉ admissions@autismtogether.co.uk

Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm

For general enquiries ☎ 0151 334 7510

✉ envelope.enquiries@autismtogether.co.uk

www.autismtogether.co.uk

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