

Feedback on the Autism and Social Communication Inclusion Team

Feedback from anyone who has accessed our service is appreciated and carefully considered. We may ask parents to complete a short evaluation to provide us with some feedback or suggestions for how we can develop and improve our service.

Contacts

For more information, the Autism and Social Communication Inclusion Team can be contacted as follows:

Autism and Social Communication Inclusion Team
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The Autism and Social Communication Inclusion Team

What is the Autism and Social Communication Team (ASCIT)?

ASCIT provides a visiting service to all States of Jersey mainstream schools. Outreach support is provided by experienced staff including advisory teachers and lead teaching assistants.

What does ASCIT do?

The ASCIT has a role in supporting schools in their understanding and management of pupils presenting with an Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) or related social communication difficulties. Work undertaken will often be case-centered consultation, rather than regular direct contact with an individual pupil.

Involvement from the service may consist of:

- Consultation with staff/parents/agencies for joint problem solving and sharing of ideas
- Information and training to schools about autism and associated social communication difficulties and how barriers to social and academic learning can be reduced
- Advice for the school around preparation for change and transitions
- Supporting parents to understand their child's social communication needs and advising on possible strategies to help and provide consistency of approach with the school
- Providing a range of strategies to more effectively meet pupils' identified needs relating to curriculum access, communication, social skills, behaviour, sensory processing differences and emotional development
- Working with pupils with ASCs to understand their particular needs
- Advice on peer group awareness and social inclusion

How do I get access to the service?

If you have any concerns about your child's social communication skills (not necessarily with a diagnosis of autism) then you first need to speak to your child's class teacher or their school's Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo).

If the school thinks the ASCIT may be able to help, they will refer your child to the team. Casework and support is allocated on a needs-led basis and referrals are allocated on a half termly basis.

Your permission will always be sought if the ASCIT are going to be formally involved in supporting your child.

How might the ASCIT work with my child?

The ASCIT may work with your child's teacher and/or teaching assistant to design and implement appropriate strategies in the following ways:

- Observation in class and in social situations
- Use of checklists to identify strengths and difficulties
- Obtain your child's point of view about preferences and dislikes
- If there are significant communication or sensory processing differences, the ASCIT may recommend referral to other specialist agencies, e. g. Speech and Language Therapy or Occupational Therapy
- Advise on the development of social skills groups
- Help staff to write targets, social stories and visual timetables

How ASCIT supports parents

- We will ask the SENCo to arrange a joint consultation meeting at school to discuss your views/concerns
- We aim to help teachers and parents provide consistent approaches