

# The Bristol Autism Strategy Adults and Children 2012-2015



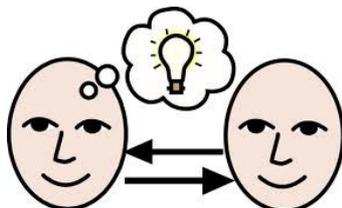
The Government has asked all Councils to make a plan for how they will support adults with autism better in the future.



In Bristol we have made a plan for adults and children, because we know that autism affect people all through their lives.



People with autism are born with difficulties in interacting and communicating with other people. It can be hard for people with autism to deal with other people because they often find it hard to work out what others are thinking or feeling. For example they often find it difficult to explain what it is they need, or understand what other people are asking them.



They may have difficulties in understanding the meaning behind what people ask them or say to them.



There are good things about having autism too. It can mean that a person is honest, logical and reliable. They may be very skilled in some areas and spot details that other people miss. These skills can be very useful in work, but people with autism often find it hard to get jobs. It can be hard for people with autism to show these good things to others, so they can feel very alone.



Sadly, many people with autism do not get the right help from services such as doctors teachers or social workers because they do not recognise or understand enough about autism. Also not enough people know how to talk to a person with autism or explain things clearly to them. This can make it difficult for a person with autism to get the help they need.



We think there are about 4,000 people in Bristol with autism. How this affects people can vary a lot.



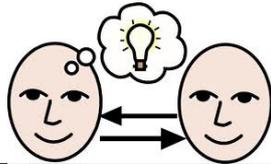
We know that nearly half of all people with autism also have learning difficulties.



We want to make things better for children and adults with autism in Bristol, which is why we are writing a plan for how to do this.



## Autism Strategy: We are aiming to:



Make sure more people and services understand how to support people with autism



Make it easier for people to find out whether they have autism, and what services there are that can support them



Make it possible for more children to stay with their families and for adults to live in their own homes with the right support.



Support adults with autism to make it easier for them to find paid work, or the right college course.

Make sure children to have a chance to find out what work they might want to do when they grow up.



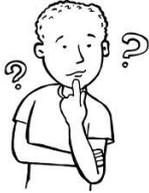
Make better plans for people with autism



Support family carers better, so they can have more choices about short breaks or other services.



We will make an Action plan for the next three years and report to the Health and Wellbeing Board to let them know how we are doing.



We would like people to tell us what they think of our plan. We have questions we would like you to answer:



What are the things we should do first to make things better?



What things might stop us?



Is there anything else we should include?

Please send your comments to:



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