

## Information and Helpline Services

The Information Service is a valuable part of our work and is available to anyone who needs help and support to understand the implications of a diagnosis of autism. This service is often accessed by parents whose child has been recently assessed as having the condition.

A range of information is available, particularly leaflets and fact sheets, details of Parent Support Groups, book lists and various training events. Sometimes callers simply want to talk to other people who understand and share their experiences. Newsletters are also produced for our members to keep them up to date with news and events. News and updates can also be viewed on our website at [www.autismwestmidlands.org.uk](http://www.autismwestmidlands.org.uk) or contact our Helpline on 0121 450 7575. If you would like to become a member, please contact our Helpline for further information.

## Family Support

Our Family Support Service provides a range of support for families and children with autistic spectrum disorders. This includes information, advocacy and support for parent groups throughout the region. We have also devised parent training courses which help with communication and behavioural strategies. For more information telephone 0121 450 7575.

## Training

autism.west midlands delivers a comprehensive schedule of training courses to a range of professionals, carers and families. We offer autism awareness courses that can be 'tailored' to the target audience; we deliver the Certificate in Autism (validated by the University College of Worcester) and also the Autism module of the Learning Disability Awards Framework Level 2 for carers (validated by the British Institute of Learning Disabilities). We hold a number of conferences and training events throughout the year on all aspects of living and working with autism. These always include expert speakers, including professionals, individuals with autistic spectrum disorders and family members. A full schedule can be obtained from our Training team on 0121 450 7576 or view our website [www.autismwestmidlands.org.uk](http://www.autismwestmidlands.org.uk)

autism.west midlands provides the following services:

<b>Information Helpline</b>	<b>0121 450 7575</b>
<b>Education Coddington Court School</b>	<b>01531 640 541</b>
<b>Training</b>	<b>0121 450 7576</b>
<b>Supported Living (ASSET)</b>	<b>0121 450 7589</b>
<b>Supported Employment (ASpire)</b>	<b>0121 224 7844</b>
<b>Family Support</b>	<b>0121 450 7574</b>
<b>Residential Services</b>	<b>0121 450 7584</b>

## autism.west midlands

18 Highfield Road  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham  
B15 3DU

Telephone: 0121 450 7580/82

Fax: 0121 450 7581

Information Helpline: 0121 450 7575

Website: [www.autismwestmidlands.org.uk](http://www.autismwestmidlands.org.uk)

Email: [info@autismwestmidlands.org.uk](mailto:info@autismwestmidlands.org.uk)



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



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Serving  
the  
Region

*autism.west midlands is an independent provider of services  
for people with Autistic Spectrum Disorders*

autism.west midlands • Registered Office: 18 Highfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 3DU  
Registered Charity Number 517077 • Registered Company Number 1953344 (England)

## Serving the Region

**autism.west midlands** provides a range of services for people with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and their families and carers across the West Midlands region.

The organisation was started in 1965 by groups of parents who offered support to each other when their children had received diagnoses of autism, which had then only recently been recognised as a disability. This model of parent support continues to this day and we have Parent Support Groups and contacts throughout the West Midlands.

Since that time, the organisation has grown into being a main provider of residential and community services for children and their families, and adults affected by autism.

### Adult residential care provision

We have six Homes which provide residential care for 53 adults with a range of autistic spectrum disorders. Three of these homes are in south Birmingham, one in north Solihull and one in Droitwich and we also have a new housing scheme in Sandwell for 8 adults with high level needs. This new model of provision offers people their own tenancies with 24 hour support and we will seek to develop further similar services elsewhere in the Region.

All our residential services are developed in partnership with Local Authorities and Housing Associations.

We believe in the potential of each person therefore residents in all of these homes are encouraged to take up opportunities for leisure and education activities in the community.



### Adult support in the community

**autism.west midlands** is developing a range of support services for people with autistic spectrum disorders in the community who need support with life and social skills. Our **ASSET** (Asperger Syndrome Support and Enablement Team) staff work in a number of localities across the Region enabling adults with more able autism to live independently and access services and benefits as required. There are a number of Support Groups for adults with Asperger Syndrome, which provide the opportunity to get together and share experiences.

From these Support Groups a need was identified to help people with Asperger Syndrome with employment issues. We now have our employment support service, named **ASpire**, and this offers training, work experience and support for finding a job, and ongoing support in maintaining employment. It also offers training to employers to help them support people with Asperger Syndrome in their work.

We also intend to develop a support service to adults with autism and more complex needs in their own homes or within the local community. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact our Helpline on 0121 450 7575.

## Coddington Court School

Coddington Court School is a residential school for children with autistic spectrum disorders aged between 8 and 19.

Each child is supported to achieve his or her potential and the National Curriculum is part of a 24 hour individualised learning programme for each child. Children are referred through Education Authorities, Social Services or Health Authorities when it has proved too difficult for them to remain in mainstream schools, or other schools and in their family homes.

The children are encouraged to take part in activities in the local community as well as within the school, using its range of facilities. We try to ensure that each child's individual needs are adequately met, in the understanding that some children have very complex needs and that all their experiences of autism are different. If you are interested in placements at our school, please contact 01531 640 541.



Photo, John Teale of J.T. Photographx.