

## WHO ARE WE?

The **Autism Family Advisory Team** was established in 1994.

We are part of Northamptonshire Children and Young People's Service.

We are based at Arnold House in Moulton Leys which is a residential unit for children with Autism.

We run as an independent Service providing direct support and advice to families in their home and in community.

The Team is made up of a Team Manager, a Senior Worker and a number of part time Family Advisory Workers (FAWs)

All members of the Team are fully trained in all aspects of Autism, the use of TEACCH, PECs, Social Stories and other complimentary interventions.

## HOW WE WORK

Our method of work is based on the **TEACCH** Approach - *Treatment and Education of Autistic and Communication handicapped Children*.

TEACCH works using the strengths of autism. It looks at adapting the physical environment of the child and introducing visual supports to make expectations clearer, teach routines and make the world more meaningful. This helps reduce anxiety and negative behaviours.

We also work with other supports that complement the use of TEACCH (Social Stories, PECs). These will be explained to you in detail if we think they might be helpful for your child.

## HOW CAN WE HELP?

After you have made contact with the Team we will arrange to meet with you. During this meeting we can discuss the issues and concerns that you may have and offer some initial advice or support.

After this meeting we can offer support to you in a variety of ways:

### Direct 'hands on' work

Working with you at home or in the community to help resolve a specific issue. The FAW will work 'hands on' with your child teaching them a new skill or routine and showing you how to interact with your child to implement the supports. Once this is established the FAW will then provide ongoing guidance and support.

### 'Make and Take'

Making visual supports for your child and offering short term direct input and ongoing support. The level of support is agreed between you and the FAW depending on the issue being addressed.

### Ongoing

Offering advice and guidance in the form of home visits to help you maintain or adapt supports that you are already using.

### Information and Advice Sessions

*Held every Friday at our Base in Moulton Leys*

Offering advice and support to you as and when you need to speak to someone from the Team.

**We will work in partnership with you providing the level of support that is right for you and your family.**

**Some of the families we work with use more than one of these levels of support to meet their needs.**

## OUR AIMS

- ◆ To work in partnership with you at all times.
- ◆ To help you gain a greater understanding of autism and autistic behaviour.
- ◆ To relate this to the behaviours of your child.
- ◆ To empower you to use the principles of TEACCH and other complimentary interventions with your child as a way to help manage and modify behaviour and to teach meaning.
- ◆ To use TEACCH and other complimentary interventions to enable your child to achieve as full and independent a life as possible for them.

## WHAT CAN WE HELP WITH?

- Organising time at home
- Socially inappropriate behaviour
- Repetitive behaviours
- Self Help / Life Skills
- Personal Hygiene
- Participation in clubs
- Mealtimes
- Shopping
- Homework
- Sensory Issues
- Bedtime
- Dressing
- Sexuality
- Toileting
- Going out
- Choosing
- Anxieties
- Obsessions
- Playing
- Puberty

**AND ANYTHING ELSE YOU CAN THINK OF!!**

## WHO CAN WE WORK WITH?

The Autism Family Advisory Team may be able to work with you and your child:

- ◆ Up to the age of 18 years old
- ◆ If they have a diagnosis of any of the following:- autism, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Asperger Syndrome, PDD NOS and some other conditions (please contact us if you are not sure).
- ◆ If they go to a mainstream or special school – it doesn't matter

**As we always work in partnership with families it is important to understand that we cannot work successfully without your full commitment and participation.**

**You **MUST** be willing to change practices, behaviours and attitudes if our input is to be successful.**

**You need to be able to continue with the work once our input has finished.**

## HOW TO CONTACT US

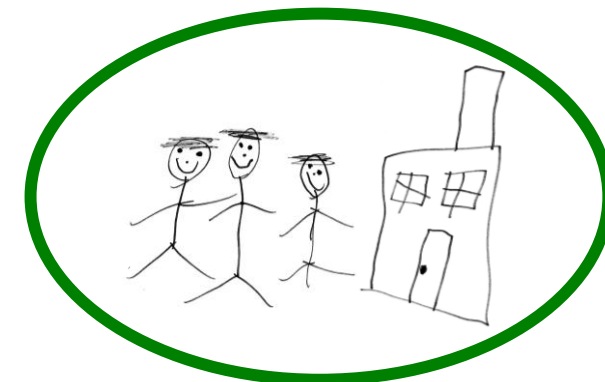
All you need to do is phone the Team on:

**07909 631353**

to arrange an initial meeting.

Please leave your name and a contact number and we will ring you back as soon as possible to arrange to meet with you.

## Autism Family Advisory Team



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Arnold House,  
Manning Road,  
Moulton Leys,  
Northampton  
NN3 7XE**

**Tel: 07909 631353**

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Working in partnership with parents to help them understand their child's behaviour and enabling them to implement visual supports in the home and community