



What is Autism?

Autism is a complex, lifelong developmental disability that typically appears during early childhood and can impact a person's social skills, communication, relationships, and self-regulation. Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviours and is a "spectrum condition" that affects people differently and to varying degrees. At O' Carolan College, we use an eclectic approach to teaching our students. The eclectic method is a combination of different learning approaches and a variety of specific ASD teaching methodologies, for example, TEACCH, ABA, Social Stories e.t.c. We also use the task analysis approach, a step by step breakdown of the task involved, thus ensuring success for all our students. The use of visual displays is of high importance for our students and an eclectic approach ensures that all of our students are supported to the highest degree.

Autism ID Card

ASIAM have provided many children and adults with an Autism ID card in order to empower autistic people in requesting assistance or support. You can apply for your card by logging on to the ASIAM website.

<https://asiam.ie/advice-guidance/community-inclusion/id-card/>

AUTISM I.D. CARD

Name:

Date of Birth:

Valid To:

I.D. Number:

ASIAM.IE
www.asiam.ie

What will this card do for the child/adult who has a diagnosis of autism? (e.g. in queues, airports, etc.)

The Card will serve as a proof of diagnosis when interacting with service providers. These include public servants and those working in private businesses. Any supports provided are at the service's discretion. It **does not** automatically entitle cardholders and or their companions to discounts or preferential treatment over other customers.

Middletown Centre for Autism

The Middletown Centre for Autism was established in 2007 by The Department of Education and Skills Ireland and the Department of Education Northern Ireland to: Support the promotion of excellence throughout Northern Ireland and Ireland in the education of children and young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorders. Middletown Centre for Autism designs and delivers training programmes cognisant of the needs of Parents, Education Professionals and those who traverse these groupings. You can visit the site on the link below:

<https://www.middletownautism.com/>

Some useful sites and information for parents and teachers:

Irish Autism Action: www.autismireland.ie.

Irish Society for Autism: <http://autism.ie/>

National Parents Council Primary: www.npc.ie.

National Parents Council Post-Primary: www.npcpp.ie.

Shine Centre for Autism: www.shineireland.com.

Special Needs Parents Association: www.specialneedsparents.ie.

Other useful guides

Some useful Information for Parents/Guardians of Children and Young People with Autism Spectrum Disorder The aim of this pamphlet is to inform parents and guardians of supports and services available for children and young people with autism spectrum disorder and their families.

http://ncse.ie/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Pamphlet-3-Autism-01_09_14.pdf

