

Information for schools

about the AET resource for parents and carers - *Working together with your child's school*

Introduction

The Autism Education Trust has developed a guide for parents and carers to help in deciding what is important for their child with autism in a school. This can be accessed at www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk. The guide is intended to facilitate discussion between staff and the parents of a child with autism to decide on what the priorities might be for that child within the school. Staff can start the conversation with parents or parents can bring along the document to discuss with the school.

There are four different sections:

Your child

Working together with the school

Adapting the learning for your child

Supporting your child at school

Each section has a number of statements which parents can consider to identify what are the most important aspects of school for their child.

There is a 4 point rating scale, as follows:

Essential

Important

Not very important

Not necessary

It is recommended that parents choose about three of the 36 statements in the resource, as priorities and write them down in the Next Steps section. These priorities can then be shared with school staff. This resource is not designed to be used to rate how good the school is at meeting the needs of children with autism. Instead, it is designed to enable you to work with parents more effectively to identify and meet the current needs of their child.

Staff will need to review the priorities with parents on an annual basis or more regularly, to reflect the changing needs of the child. The statements can be used to support the writing of pupil profiles and goals. The completed statements can also be used for transition planning, to contribute to an Education, Health and Care Plan or for review meetings to share useful information with new staff.

Further information

Further information and a free downloadable copy of the 'Working together with your child's school' interactive document can be found on the Autism Education Trust (AET) website at www.aetraininghubs.org.uk/parent-guide. The Autism Education Trust (AET) is funded by the Department for Education (DfE) and is dedicated to coordinating, supporting and promoting effective educational practice for all children and young people on the autism spectrum.

