

Title:..... Initial:.....

Surname:.....

Address.....

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Postcode.....

Tel:.....

Email:.....

- I would like to make a donation of: £..... (Please enter amount)
I enclose a cheque / postal order payable to **NAS – West Cumbria Branch** (please return to address below)
- A family member has an Autistic Spectrum Disorder or displays autism-like features and I would like more information
- I would like to join the West Cumbria Branch of the National Autistic Society

Should you wish to support any of our activities as a volunteer, please contact:

Gary Tomlinson Branch Officer gary.tomlinson@nas-westcumbria.org.uk 01900 828 291	Lisa Burrell Branch Treasurer Lisa.burrell@nas-westcumbria.org.uk
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Autism is...

... a lifelong developmental disability affecting social and communication skills. It knows no social or ethnic barriers and affects about 91 in every 10,000. Many of those with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) remain undiagnosed. People with autism often have accompanying learning disabilities but in all cases share a common difficulty in making sense of the world in the way others do. The pin-people chart overleaf shows some of the characteristics associated with autism.

The effect on the family can be traumatic. Family life is disrupted by such unpredictable and anti-social behaviour and there is, for all parents, the ceaseless worry about what will happen when they become too old and frail to take care of their child themselves.

We need your help and support to help us help children, young people and adults with Autistic Spectrum Disorders



The National Autistic Society

West Cumbria Branch

www.nas-westcumbria.org.uk

BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR PEOPLE WITH AUTISM

The National Autistic Society is a Company limited by guarantee Registered in England No 1205298. Registered Office: 393 City Road. London EC1V 1NG Registered as a charity No. 269425



The National Autistic Society
West Cumbria Branch

Was formed by parents, to provide mutual support and to ensure that children, young people and adults with Autism have access to appropriate education and care services.

- ? We hold regular meetings for parents / carers to exchange information, views and provide support for each other
- ? We lobby and negotiate with local education, social services and health authorities to enhance provision.
- ? Funding permitting, we provide specific services where there is a gap identified in local provision. E.G. Sports Activities, Play-schemes etc.

For more information visit our website...
www.nas-westcumbria.org.uk

These Pin People illustrate some ways in which autism is displayed

Displays indifference

Joins in only if adult insists and assists

One-sided interaction

Indicates needs by using an adult's hand

Does not play with other children

Talks incessantly about only one topic

Echolalic - copies words like parrot

ARE YOU GOING? ARE YOU GOING?

Inappropriate laughing or giggling

Handles or spins objects

No eye contact

Variety is not the spice of life

Lack of creative, pretend play

But some can do some things very well, very quickly but not tasks involving social understanding

- Difficulty with social relationships
- Difficulty with verbal communication
- Difficulty with non-verbal communication
- Difficulty in the development of play and imagination
- Resistance to change in routine

Early diagnosis is essential if a person with autism is to achieve full potential. It is only when their disability is understood that they can be helped to maximise skills and minimise problems.