Let’s Get It Right for students with autism in Edinburgh

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Programme

• Context
• The project
• Process
• Outcomes
Context

- GIRFEC
- Strategic Outcomes of Children and Families
- National Autism Strategy
- Edinburgh Autism Plan
- Local drivers
- Joint working
“Like fleas out of a bag”
Project: Culture Change

Factors which support systemic change:

- Professional development
- Empowering people
- Consultations and conversations
- Improving practice at pathway 1 and 2
- Training
- Perspectives
- Culture change
The process

- Visits
- Focus groups
- Joining authority groups
- Autism project
- Training
- Consultation
- Bringing together
Parent Views

Be honest about abilities of student

Willingness of teachers to ask questions and to learn more

Good transition is useful

Learn at primary schools some life skills for High School

Understanding of the individual

Good communication between teachers and family

is he less autistic than he was?
Parent Views

Care about how you use language with students

Discreet, timely response to bullying

Good contacts in school

Need to hear a balance between the good and the bad

Supportive parents of other children can make a difference

Be as honest and straightforward as possible, don’t make promises that actually you can’t keep
Romeo and Juliet
I don’t like group work.

I only like it when the other students focus properly in groups.

I want to do well at school.

More learning support.

Get to know people.

Having a place – a safe haven.

More help with making friends.

Difficulty with understanding and getting along with other students.
Particular teachers important

Pupils with ASCs should not be forced to participate in competitive sports, as poor coordination/motor skills can often lead to bullying

Talk to teachers and get to know them

Work’s not so bad

Should understand that sometimes people haven’t heard cos they have drifted off a bit. Just say it again

Teachers understanding about autism

Know the school back to front

Bullying
You’re just being compressed
But most of all... Understand me
“You’re going to learn this”
Outcomes

- Training Framework
- Autism lens on Child Planning Meetings (CPM)
- Curriculum Framework
- Supporting families
- Promoting inclusion in the community
Training framework

Level 1
- Whole school
- Core knowledge and key messages

Level 2
- CPD within the authority
- Specific knowledge and skills

Level 3
- CPD outwith the authority
- Specialist knowledge
Developing an autism lens

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Safe</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>S/times</th>
<th>Always</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A ‘safe space’ has been identified and is available within school</td>
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<tr>
<td>All relevant staff are aware of the ‘safe space’ and how it should be used</td>
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<tr>
<td>The child is aware of the ‘safe space’ and has been able to practice going to this space while calm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two key teaching staff (including one SMT member) have been identified as contacts/ link for child and family</td>
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<td>A behaviour contingency plan has been written and shared with all relevant staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>A bullying contingency plan has been written and shared with all relevant staff</td>
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Overall rating
I can use information to build new ideas
I can say what I think about information and back up my opinion
I can break down information to understand it better
I can use information in a new way
I can explain the ideas in information
I can remember facts about information
I can communicate about information/activities
I can respond to information to engage in activities
I can join in activities
I show an interest in activities
I am aware of activities
I am present when activities are happening and may notice parts of the activity
Supporting families

- Family follow up
- Parent information sessions
- Parent programmes
- Consultation
- ASL services
- Collaborative practice
Promoting inclusion in the community

After school clubs
Video of PEERS – policing
Video of PEERS– conversation hog
In conclusion

- training
- resources
- procedures

Culture Change

- attitude change
- increased capacity
“It’s their truth”