

Welcome!

Information about Cheshire East Autism
Team (CEAT)

Who We Are

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|--|-------------------|
| Specialist Teachers Team Manager: | - Nicola West |
| Specialist Teacher (0.8)
Area: Macclesfield, Poynton, Disley ,
Knutsford, Wilmslow, Congelton. | - Ruth Wangermann |
| Specialist Teacher (0.6)
Area: Crewe, Alsager, Nantwich, Sandbach
Middlewich, Holmes Chapel. | - Alison Wallace |
| Specialist Teacher (0.5) Congleton, Sandbach &
Holmes Chapel. | - Lyndsey Smith |
| Specialist Teacher (0.8) All High Schools | - Kelly Martin |
| Specialist Speech and Language Therapist (0.5) | - Sarah Worth |
| Specialist Support Assistant FT covers all areas | - Sue Scarle |
| Family Support Liasion Worker (0.5) | - Janet Threader |
| Business Support FT | - Clare O'Connor |

Aims of CEAT

- To support schools throughout Cheshire East to meet the needs of pupils who are identified as having social and communication difficulties, Autistic Spectrum Conditions (ASC)
- To contribute and assist professional colleagues in the diagnosis and assessment of children with social and communication difficulties and autistic spectrum conditions (ASC) by direct involvement in the school.
- To provide staff training for teachers & professionals.
- To help in the planning and future development of policy and resources for pupils with autism within Cheshire East.
- To promote and support inter-agency, multi-professional working throughout Cheshire East.

Referral Process

- CEAT are now running consultation meetings in all areas.
- Schools should have dates for this term as well as copies of the required paper work
- Schools should complete the Consultation preparation form and email or post this to CEAT **BEFORE** the consultation meeting.
- **Written** Parental Consent **MUST** be obtained prior to the consultation.
- After the meeting, the consultation action plan should be completed by schools and emailed or posted to CEAT.
- Recommendations discussed should be included in the child's IEP
- Where a child is already referred to CEAT and is on our current/ active case load, then we will continue to be involved with that child.
- If the child has been referred to CEAT or CASADT in the past and is on our dormant case load, then a re-referral is necessary.

Next Steps

The child is then discussed as a review case at a future meeting. There are then various options:

- No further action is required
- Further discussion and IEP targets set
- Where necessary, a school visit will be arranged.

Library

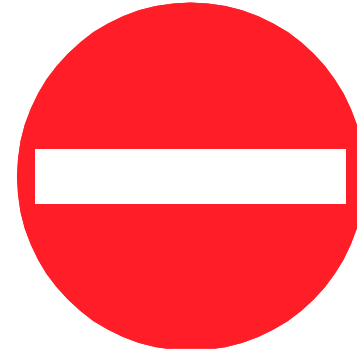
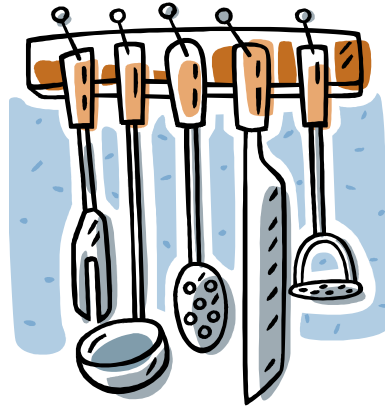
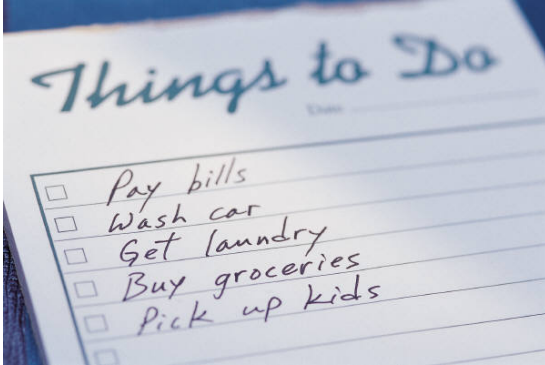
- The team have a Resource Library based at Puss Bank School, Macclesfield, which has a wide range of literature and a variety of games, activities and resources.
- School membership is £25 per annum, individual membership is £10 per annum.
- The library is open on a Tuesday and Thursday.
<http://u014608.microlibrarian.net/enethosted.aspx?hosted=1> or put Cheshire East Autism Team into a search engine.

Open Contact

- We operate an Open Contact Service on Tuesday afternoons for advice for school staff, parents, or other professionals.
- The child does not have to have an ASC diagnosis for us to offer advice & the child does not have to be known to us; discussion can be anonymous.
- **Open Contact 01625 378003 This number is only operational on Tuesday afternoon, NO voice mail service.**
- Our main office is Crewe 01270 685960. Call this number to book a library appointment (essential) or for general information. Clare is very helpful and will point you in the right direction!!

Visual and Structure

Visual & Structure



We all use them!

What effect can using visual and structure supports have?

They can

- help individuals to gain independence
- lead to a decrease in frustration, anxiety & aggression
- help individuals to adjust to changes at home and at school more easily
- help with transitions

Learning through seeing

- Research has shown that for many individuals with autism, one way of learning – ***learning through seeing*** – is superior.
- People with autism may have good expressive language, but often do not process information given to them verbally.
- *Just because an individual with autism or a related special need can say the words does not mean that he understands them or knows what to do.*

Visual strategies

Visual information needs to be individualised

- Visual reminders
- 'My Space'
- Asking for help
- 5 point scale- anger, voice volume etc.
- Turn taking dial
- Warning of change
- Social scripts in pocket, social stories
- Comic strip conversations
- Rules of games
- Use pictures & objects
- Blue Peter method

Structure: Why does it help?

Makes the world meaningful

- Helps individuals understand what is happening
- Helps individuals understand what's expected

Makes the most of strengths

- Uses visual skills
- Capitalises on a liking for order and routine

Works round the blindspots

- Anxiety in the face of uncertainty
- Poor self-organisation
- Problems with attention
- Difficulties understanding & processing language
- Difficulties understanding abstract ideas

Building in Structure

Structuring time

- Clear beginning and endings
- Consistent routines: the order things are done
- Letting the child know – visual systems

For example:

- Visual timetables
- Now next
- Putting dirty clothes in the laundry basket (bath time).
- Have regular routine but build in flexibility.
- Consistent ways of starting something/finishing.

Structuring tasks

- The way things are done: work systems..pair socks, dots on table etc
- Steps and sequences within tasks
- Getting help and moving on

For example:

- Show what work, how much, when will it be finished, what's next. HW (self study)
- Task lists
- Choice board. I.e. if mum's on the phone
- Written scripts, what to do, how to act appropriately
- Pass objects during turn taking
- Worry plan

Structuring the environment

- Reducing distractions and temptations: work stations for self study
- Linking activities to specific places, getting changed, generalising.
- Marking boundaries (large or crowded spaces)

For example:

- Workstation HW.
- Place for everything
- Place to sit
- Demarcation lines for room

How to contact us

Based at:

- **Floor 7 Delamere House**
- **C/o Municipal Buildings, Earle Street**
- **Crewe. CW1 2BJ**
- **01270 685960**
- **E-mail: theautismteam@cheshireeast.gov.uk**
- **Open Contact only on Tuesday afternoons.**
- **01625 378003 No voice mail on this service.**