

Diagnostic Assessment for Autism Spectrum Disorder



Mersey Care
NHS Foundation Trust

Community and Mental Health Services

The Mersey Care Asperger Service provide community based services for adults (18 upwards) in the Merseyside region with non-Learning Disability (LD) Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) diagnoses.

The service provides both individual (1:1) and group interventions. Such interventions offer awareness and acceptance for people with (non-LD) ASD and their families from both professionals and the wider community.

The service works with local services including schools and colleges, housing associations, primary healthcare services and other specialist mental health services, such as those for people involved in the criminal justice system and those receiving support for mental health, alcohol and substance misuse services.

This approach promotes access to integrated health, social care and community services.

The service operates as a 'managed care network' where the service take on a coordinating role ensuring communication and continuity between services, allowing individuals to be referred into services within the network that most suits their needs. The service aims to provide a specialist support service for people with (non-LD) ASD, adopting a person-centred approach that assists individuals with the social and communication barriers that they may face in everyday life.

The service offers assessment and diagnosis of (non-LD) ASD, followed by post-diagnostic interventions which range from 1:1 clinical input (e.g. clinical psychology, nursing, occupational therapy) and also group interventions.

The service also offers a social inclusion hub and drop in which provide socialising and networking opportunities for our service users and their networks of support.



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Our (non-LD) ASD service puts the people who we support at the heart of everything we do. Our service is delivered by a highly skilled, experienced and motivated workforce, and our values of rights, respect and responsibility are core to the delivery of our service.

We are committed to the philosophy of seeing the person, meeting the need and challenging the stigma. In addition to the NICE recommended diagnostic assessments and post-diagnostic interventions we offer, the service also demonstrates how we, along with a similarly passionate group of carers and service users, can work in collaboration to effect lasting change and improve services.

Our service users and carers inform us of the aspects of our community that they feel are important (e.g. health and wellbeing; exercise; research; special interests; keeping safe etc.) and how best to promote these to those who attend our regular events.

As a result, we have: created safe and welcoming spaces for our (non-LD) ASD community; developed lasting and meaningful relationships together; publicised (non-LD) ASD throughout the Merseyside region; created resources that are used by services and local businesses to increase our profile; and continued to develop multi media projects that tell our service users' and carers' stories.

Book onto this course via email to CommercialTeam@merseycare.nhs.uk providing details of your role, team, name and contact details and your place will be confirmed.



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