

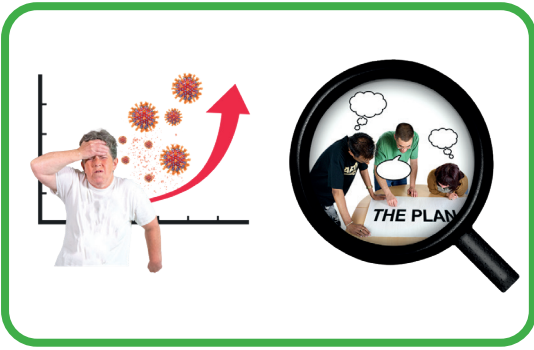
# ROTHERHAM'S ALL AGE AUTISM STRATEGY 2024 -2027



[www.rotherham.gov.uk](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk)

# Rotherham All Age Plan 2024-2027

## Introduction



Rotherham's All Age plan started during the COVID pandemic in 2020. Autistic people in Rotherham say that there is still more work that needs to be done.



Rotherham's plan is to help autistic people reach their goals and live their best life possible, while having the same opportunities as everyone else.



We want Rotherham to become an autism friendly town. We have made a plan for the next three years that includes children, young people and adults with autism.



This also includes families and carers. Rotherham has been doing things to make the lives of children, young people and adults better.



# Rotherham All Age Plan 2024-2027

These are:



- Making sure that those autistic people in Rotherham who are most in need are being seen and supported by both health and social care



- Working on Rotherham's public health plan. This will make sure that young autistic people can join in on **activities** which support them to be healthy. An example of this can be seen with **KOOTH** and **QWELL**:



- **KOOTH**- is an online mental health counselling service for young people aged 11-25



- **Qwell**- is an online mental health counselling service which supports adults

# Rotherham All Age Plan 2024-2027



- Making sure there is a good **transition** service when young autistic children are moving to adult social services



- Making Rotherham a safe space, supporting anyone who has a mental health crisis outside of Rotherham. Having support for people in crisis and stop people going to A and E



- Creating a diagnostic plan for Rotherham Adult Neurodiversity Support Service (RANSS). This is for people who know or think they are autistic and for autistic people who were diagnosed in the past but did not have support



- RDASH has a new all age autism diagnostic service



# Updating the Rotherham All Age Plan

## Consultation



We worked with Rotherham Parent Carer Forum to do a consultation.



Rotherham Parent Carer Forum were aware of peoples different needs so to get people's ideas we gave autistic people different ways to give their feedback.



A Total of 175 people gave us their views and experiences.



Most of these people were autistic, and some people who know or think they are autistic.

# Updating the Rotherham All Age Plan

## We did four focus groups



- Nayi Zindagi - a community organisation that empowers people with learning disabilities from ethnic communities



- Speakup for Autism - A self-advocacy group to give a voice for autistic people



- Autistic young people (under 18)



- Autistic people ages 18+



# Updating the Rotherham All Age Plan

We have listened to what people said and made some changes to this plan.

Our priorities for 2024-2027 are:



- Welcome and Care



- Value and Include



- Communicate



- Work in Partnership

# Updating the Rotherham All Age Plan



## Welcome and care

Support young people with care and support needs to prepare for adulthood; we will do this by 2025. Our priorities are:



- Work together with organisations to make a new transitions service



- Make sure the voice of the person is **heard, listened** to and respected



- Create more job opportunities for people with care and support needs



# Updating the Rotherham All Age Plan



- Look at how we can use the NHS Autism Programme in Schools

## Value and Include



**We will look at how we can lower health and care inequalities for autistic people and give more opportunities for people to get care and support closer to home. We will do this by 2024. Our priorities for this are:**



- Making sure the Oliver McGowan training is given to all frontline NHS and social care staff



- South Yorkshire ICB will work with other NHS organisations, so that we are able to do more assessments for children, young people and adults and lower waiting lists

# Updating the Rotherham All Age Plan



- Review mental health services to make sure that the needs of autistic people are included in these services



- Creating a 'safe space' so that people don't need to go into mental health hospitals



- Giving more opportunities for real choice in employment through supported Internships



- Give more choice around transport



# Updating the Rotherham All Age Plan



- Help autistic people to work on their independence and life skills

## Communicate



**Give autistic people accessible information and advice that supports people to make their own decisions and choices; we will do this by 2025:**



- Make sure there is easy read information for people, including this plan



- Make a new web page for the Rotherham Local Offer for children social care

# Updating the Rotherham All Age Plan



- Make sure information about adult social care on the My Front Door website and the Rotherham Local Offer page



## Work in Partnership

**Provide person centred support; we will do this by 2025**



- Make sure Adult, Children's, Health and Education services are working better together



- Spending money on Assistive **Technologies** (AT) and think about how technology can make life better for people. We also have an Assistive Technology plan to support this work

# Updating the Rotherham All Age Plan

With this plan we hope we will achieve these goals:



1. People in Rotherham will be able to understand and accept autistic people



2. Lower health and care inequalities for autistic people



3. **Autistic** people get the right health and social care services in their communities



4. Autistic children and young people will be able to get better access to education and more positive transitions into adulthood

# Updating the Rotherham All Age Plan



5. Autistic people enjoy the benefits of employment



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