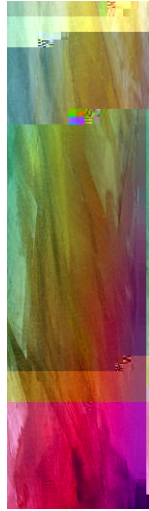


# Guidelines for Autism and Asperger's

Once considered two separate disorders, Asperger's is now classified as an autism spectrum disorder

## Social Skills

Discuss problems, model and role play correct responses  
Check on basic skills, e.g. If they know if they have made someone angry. If they do not, ask them to clarify this with people concerned.  
Emotional training: work on recognising, describing, and acting out different emotional states



## Repetitive Interests

Look at other interests as supplements.  
Look at things to fill in time when there is no structure  
Teach relaxation exercises so they do not get anxious if they cannot fill time with their favourite interest.

## Language

Practice conversation skills, how to open and close a conversation  
Help them to learn to understand jokes, e.g. By asking people if something is a joke or not.



## Auditory Sensitivity / Tactile Sensitivity

Help identify upsetting noises, e.g. others screaming - can then ask them to let the teacher know that it upsets them.  
Use music or something else pleasant as a way of blocking out unpleasant noises. It also helps to get used to different sounds

## In the Classroom

They appreciate structure. Teach use of clocks early - it helps enhance their feelings of safety.  
Low tolerance of failure hate criticism - so a good relationship with the teacher, with a lot of positive reinforcement is vital.

Strengths and Abilities that may be displayed  
Learning to read at an early age  
Memorising and learning information very quickly  
Logical thinking ability  
Learning and thinking in a visual way  
Being precise and detail oriented  
Exceptional honesty and reliability  
Dependable around schedules and routines  
Being very punctual  
Excellent sense of direction  
Strong adherence to rules  
Able to concentrate for long periods of time when motivated  
A capability for alternate problem solving  
A drive for perfection and order  
May Excel (if able) in academic areas such as science and mathematics as they are technical and logical subjects that do not heavily rely on social interaction.  
Having an extraordinarily good memory (being able to remember facts for a long period of time)

