

# Autism: What does the Code mean for you?

Local Authorities, Local Health Boards and NHS Trusts in Wales must be aware of their duties under the Autism Code of Practice.



**Here are some of the main requirements in delivering autism services across Wales.**

## Assessment and Diagnosis

- Autistic people are aware of the right to an assessment and a carer's assessment to access support.
- Delivery of services are in line with national waiting time standards.
- If autism is diagnosed, a prompt referral to support is made.
- With no diagnosis following assessment, referral for further investigation is made.
- Information on outcomes of assessments is shared between health and social care.

## Health and Social Care Services

- Reasonable adjustments are in place for autistic people to access services in the same way as others.
- As part of the Information, Assistance and Advice Service, information on local autism services is available.
- Staff undertaking assessments have appropriate autism training.
- Those waiting for diagnosis are not refused support.
- People with an autistic spectrum condition and mental health condition are not excluded from Children or Adults Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

## Awareness Raising and Training

- Autism awareness information, resources and training is widely available to the public.
- All autism services are provided by appropriately trained and skilled staff.
- Autism awareness training is included in general equality and diversity training programmes for all staff working in health and social care.
- Appropriate training provision is made available on a continuing basis for all new staff, and existing staff who change their job roles.
- Autistic people and their families are involved in the development and delivery of autism training.

## Monitoring and Planning

- Achievement is reported through Welsh Government data collection and monitoring requirements, including waiting times.
- An autism champion is appointed in each region.
- Compliance with the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act ensuring the needs of autistic people is considered in the development of regional planning.
- Autistic people are involved in developing future services.