



Supporting Children with ASD in Mainstream Education

For a child with ASD, the move from primary to secondary school can be a very difficult change. A new research grant from the Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity[®] is helping us to develop support packages to help to make the process easier.

During many of our assessments that we carry out at the Social Communication Disorders Clinic at Great Ormond Street Hospital, we hear parents raise concerns about the problems they anticipate when their child moves from primary to secondary school.

There has been little formal research carried out into the difficulties that children with autistic spectrum disorders face when moving schools. As such there are no established ways or methods of supporting children through this experience.

Our project will formally look at the difficulties and stresses that occur when a child moves to secondary school. Through examining closely the difficulties that the child experiences and looking at school provision for special educational needs and

other environmental factors such as class size, we are aiming to identify specific 'risk factors'. We are also hoping to identify areas of 'best practice' to help identify factors that support children to achieve.

By recognising these risk factors, we hope to be able to inform school and government policy on supporting children with autism spectrum disorders in mainstream education. We also wish to create our own standardised support package that primary and secondary schools can use to help them to put in appropriate support during the transition.

It is hoped that by establishing a proactive and preventative intervention, and helping education providers to fully understand the needs of children with autism spectrum disorder, more young people will achieve their academic potential.



PARTICIPATE!

We need to learn more about the ways in which schools and parents are currently planning for transition to secondary school. For further information on all the different ways in which you can participate in this research, please visit our website at:

www.ich.ucl.ac.uk/gosh/autism_and_education

Or contact us via email at: interaction@ich.ucl.ac.uk or on: 020 7829 8679, ext 2169



©2007 Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity.
Registered charity no. 235825.

Great Ormond Street 
Hospital for Children
NHS Trust