



# Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

## What is Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)?

Some people have labels to describe how their brains work. Did you know that no two people's brains work in exactly the same way?

People with ASD think differently. That's okay! The world needs people who think differently. Thinking differently is a superpower! Our differences should be respected and celebrated. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a lifelong difference in the way a brain develops disability which affects how they communicate, play, learn and interact with the world around them.

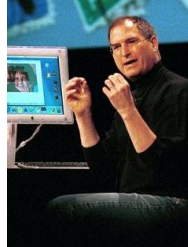
## Autism Fast Facts

- 1 in 100 people are autistic.
- ASD affects both males and females.
- Autism is a disorder with no cure. You cannot catch it like a cold or the flu.
- Every person with Autism is different and unique. It's just like how you are different from your friends.
- Their senses work differently and may cause them to be upset or over excited. A light can be too bright and hurt their eyes, or a smell can make their head hurt.
- Individuals with ASD may be very creative and find a passion and talent for music, theatre, art, dance and singing.

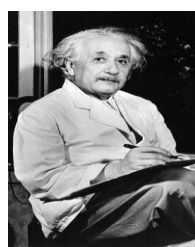
## Did you know these highly successful role models have ASD?



Chris Packham



Steve Jobs



Albert Einstein



Lionel Messi



Melanie Sykes



## Autism Awareness Day at Maidensbridge

On Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March let's raise awareness of Autism by turning Maidensbridge blue!

Add a blue accessory to your uniform to raise awareness of this neurological and developmental disorder. You could wear a blue bow, hairclip, ribbon, socks or top. The choice is yours!

### Why blue?

Blue is associated with a calm feeling and acceptance in an otherwise loud and busy world for people on the Autistic Spectrum.

## For further information on ASD:

- National Autistic Society- [www.autism.org.uk](http://www.autism.org.uk)
- Child Autism UK- [www.childautism.org.uk](http://www.childautism.org.uk)
- Autistic Parents UK- [www.autisticparentsuk.org](http://www.autisticparentsuk.org)
- Action for Children- [www.parents.actionforchildren.org.uk](http://www.parents.actionforchildren.org.uk)
- Autism Speaks- [www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org)