



# Autism Organisations, Charities, Professionals and Others Working with Young Learners on the Autism Spectrum

## Participant Information Sheet

### **Introduction**

Autism&Uni is a European project that aims to make it easier for students on the autism spectrum to transition from school and college to university. We also want to help students make the most of their university experience when they are there, and support them to learn the skills they need to negotiate student life and studies successfully. Autism&Uni will create interactive tools to enable students on the autism spectrum to find out about the challenges they may encounter in higher education, and to immerse themselves in typical scenarios. These can be used independently or with the help of professionals in HE institutions.

### **How can I participate?**

We invite you to take part in this research because we feel that your experience of working with students on the autism spectrum can contribute to our understanding of the challenges of entering and succeeding in higher education. We would like to learn about the students you support and the type of support you offer.

### **Do I have to take part?**

No. Any participation is voluntary and up to the point when you submit your questionnaire responses, you are free to withdraw without any explanation or reason.

### **What we will do with your information**

We will use the understanding and knowledge gained from your information in our research and our findings will be published. We will not be sharing information about you outside the research team. Where we ask for your name or contact details, it is for the administration of the research only. Your responses will be anonymous and it will not be possible to identify you from any published material.

If you would like to be notified when results of this research are available online, please enter your email address when prompted at the end of the questionnaire. Where we ask for your email address, it is for the stated purpose only.

### **Contact for further information**

If you have any questions about the information we have given you, or about the way your contribution will be used, please contact us before completing the questionnaire.

Project website: [www.autism-uni.org](http://www.autism-uni.org)

Email: [autism-uni@leedsmet.ac.uk](mailto:autism-uni@leedsmet.ac.uk)

Sponsor: Leeds Metropolitan University

Lead researcher: Dr Marc Fabri

## Personal Details

Q1 What is your name?  
(optional)

Q2 What is your organisation's name?  
(if applicable)

Q3 Your role or job title

## The people you support

Q4 How many young people (aged 16-25) on the autism spectrum do you support?

Q5 How many of these are attending or considering attending higher education?  
(a rough guess is fine)

Q6 What can you tell us about their academic abilities?  
(in less than 100 words)

# The support you offer

Q7 What specific support do you offer relating to the transition from school to university?  
(can tick more than one option)

- Text-based information (leaflets, website, etc.).....
- Videos .....
- Support groups .....
- Training .....
- Mentoring .....
- Role-play .....
- None.....
- Other .....
- Other, please specify

Q8 What specific support do you offer for students currently at university?  
(can tick more than one option)

- Text-based information (leaflets, website, etc.).....
- Videos .....
- Support groups .....
- Training .....
- Mentoring .....
- Role-play .....
- None.....
- Other .....
- Other, please specify

Q9 What topics do the support and information cover?  
(optional, can tick more than one option)

- Moving to a new city .....
- Independent living.....
- Alternatives to registration and other induction processes.....
- What to expect .....
- What support is available from their institution .....
- Mental health support .....
- Social skills.....
- Other .....
- Other, please specify

Q10 Who is the support aimed at?  
(can tick more than one option)

- Students .....
- Parents .....
- Schools/colleges .....
- Universities .....
- Professionals .....
- Other .....
- Other, please specify

Q11 What makes someone eligible for your support?  
(in less than 100 words)

Q12 Have you ever used social stories to help the student with new situations?  
(social stories are descriptions of social situations, the problems and the solutions and consequences)

- Yes .....
- I know them, but have not used them .....
- I don't know them .....

Q13 Can you tell us more about how you used social stories, and how effective you found them?  
(optional, in less than 100 words)

# You and your organisation

Q14 What are the main difficulties for you in working with students on the autism spectrum?  
(in less than 100 words)

Q15 Do any of your staff consider themselves "specialists" in autism support?

Yes .....

No.....

If you are not sure, please describe the areas of specialism

Q16 Have any of your staff had recent autism-specific training?

Yes .....

No.....

Q17 Would you like your staff to have autism-specific training?

Yes .....

No.....

Q18 What autism-specific topics would you/your staff prioritise for training?  
(in less than 100 words)

Q19 Do you liaise with external autism organisations?

Yes .....

No.....

Please specify which organisations

Q20 Do you work directly with higher education institutions?

Yes .....

No.....

Q21 Can you tell us about your experiences when working directly with higher education institutions?  
(in less than 200 words)

# Finally

Q22 Is there anything else you'd like to tell us?  
(optional, in less than 200 words)



## Consent Form

We will use the understanding and knowledge gained from your information in our research and our findings will be published. We will not be sharing information about you outside the research team. Your responses will be anonymous and it will not be possible to identify you from any published material.

Q23

I consent to the use of my responses by Autism&Uni. ....

Q24

I am happy to be contacted about taking part in follow-up research, e.g. to talk more about my experiences.....

Q25

I would like to be notified when results from this research become available online. ....

If you have indicated that we may contact or notify you, please enter your email address below. We will not use your email address for any other purpose.

Q26 Please enter your email address.

Thank you for taking part in this survey

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Please send the completed form back to:

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Headingley Campus, Caedmon 102  
Leeds LS6 3QS  
United Kingdom