Autism Services (South Lee)

Multidisciplinary Therapeutic Team Supports and Interventions

Information for Parents and Carers of



Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

in the South Lee Catchment Area



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Autism Services (South Lee)

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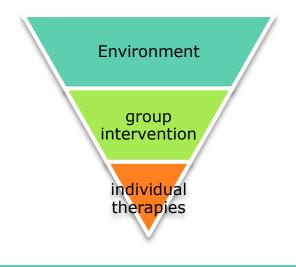
Autism Services (South Lee)

The Autism Service in the South Lee Catchment Area is run under the auspices of the Brothers of Charity. Its multidisciplinary therapeutic teams provide assessment and intervention services for children up to end of school.

The teams consist of a co-ordinator, speech and language therapy, psychology, social work, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, home support and preschool therapy.

Model of Service Delivery

In line with best practice, the South Lee Autism Service operates under a model of service delivery which targets three main levels of service provision.



Environment

The service aims to enhance environmental supports for individuals with ASD. This includes providing information, training and education for parents, siblings, and other people with whom a child comes into contact. This level focuses on developing relevant people's knowledge and understanding of ASD, providing information and support, and promoting the use of strategies and systems which maximise the child's learning and independence.

Group interventions

The teams provide group interventions to children including training in social communication, social interaction, play, development of life and emotional management skills, development of fine and gross motor skills and sensory management strategies.

Individual therapeutic support

Individual support is offered to children where appropriate, subject to resources.

Three Age Groups - Three Teams

Three teams work with children of three different age groups.

Early Years Team	 Young children up to the end of Senior Infants
Middle Years Team	• Children from 1st class to the end of 5th class in primary school
Teenagers Team	• Young people from 6th class in primary school to the end of Leaving Cert. year

Referrals to the Teams

Parents of children in the service, and children themselves, can refer to the relevant team.

Preschool and school staff can make referrals with parental consent.

The team will process each referral and respond as appropriate.

Where common themes and common needs affect children, teams will endeavour to address these needs through instruction and training in small or medium-sized groups.

Where parents and children have specific concerns, these will be handled on an individual basis.

Parent information evenings, parent education programmes, parent training workshops, and workshops for relevant professionals are provided on an ongoing basis.

Teams provide support, training and consultation on issues relating to ASD to educational staff in preschools, mainstream schools and special classes attached to mainstream schools.

We hope the information in this leaflet is useful. If you have questions, please contact your team for more information.