

Appendix 5: Questionnaire for schools and colleges on children and young people with AS



Questionnaire for Schools and Colleges on Young People (10-18 years) with Asperger Syndrome Living in Northern Ireland

Dear SENCo/Special Needs Tutor

The Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People (NICCY) has commissioned a Review of needs and services for 10-18 year olds who have been, or are currently in the process of being, diagnosed with **Asperger Syndrome** (and those who are **intellectually able** with autism).

The Review is being undertaken by a team from the University of Birmingham.

We would like to hear YOUR VIEWS on the help and support provided for this group of children/students. In particular, we would like to know what you feel works well, what might be improved and what the gaps in provision are.

Instructions for the questionnaire:

Please answer the questions below, if they are relevant to you.

When you have completed the questionnaire, you should return it to:

**Dr Glenys Jones, School of Education, University of Birmingham,
Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TT
(Secretary Linda Hudson 0121 414 5620)**

Email: Asperger@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Website: www.niccy.org/aspergerreview/

Findings of the research

We will use what you, and others tell us, to write a report for NICCY. Please note, we will not use the names of staff, students or places in the report or any other information that would mean others could be identified. All those who complete and return a questionnaire will be sent a summary copy of the report (giving its main findings and recommendations) plus a list of references and resources on Asperger syndrome.

Statement of consent

I am happy to give my views to the Birmingham Team and for them to put these in their report to NICCY and to use when teaching others about Asperger syndrome, provided no names of places or people are mentioned and the source of the information is not given.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

With many thanks in anticipation of your support.

**SECTION A:
DETAILS OF THE PERSON(S) FILLING IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE**

1 Your name: _____

2 Role in the school/college
(e.g. Principal /Headteacher/ Deputy/SENCo/Head of Learning Support)

3 Name of the School/College

4 Area in which the school/college is based (please tick):

Region	Please tick
Belfast region	
North Eastern	
South Eastern	
Western	
Southern	

5 Approximately, how long have you worked in the school/college?

_____ years

6 How many students in **TOTAL** are on roll at the school/college?
(i.e. not just those with Asperger syndrome)

7 What is the age range of students at the school/college?

_____ to _____ years

8 Who funds the school/college? _____

9 Who administers the school/college? _____

10 Do the children/students attend on a daily or a residential basis?
(please circle)

Day only Some residential All residential

11 Approximately how many children/students diagnosed with **Asperger syndrome** does the school/college have on roll at the present time aged between **10 and 18 years**? (please circle)

None 1-5 6-10 11-20 more than this

12 **In addition** to those with Asperger syndrome, approximately how many children/students do you have who have been diagnosed as **high functioning autistic** or **able autistic** (that is, they are of average or above average intelligence) and aged between **10 and 18 years**.

None 1-5 6-10 11-20 more than this

13 Are there any students on roll aged **10 to 18** years, where a diagnosis of Asperger syndrome/able autism/high functioning autism is suspected, but has not been diagnosed?

YES, there are _____ students we suspect may have this diagnosis

NO

Comment further if you wish:

If there are **NO** pupils with Asperger syndrome or high functioning/able autism in this age group currently on roll, then you do **NOT** need to answer any further questions, but **please return the questionnaire** to the Review Team at Birmingham.

SECTION C: DETAILS OF CHILDREN/STUDENTS CURRENTLY ON ROLL WITH HIGH FUNCTIONING AUTISM/ABLE AUTISM AGED 10 TO 18 YEARS

2 Complete the table below to give details of the children/students with high functioning autism/able autism currently on roll

Child's/Students initials only please	Sex	Year of birth	Approx length of time at the school/college
e.g. IF David Hayes DH	M	1994	1 year
IF Liam O'Connor LO'C	M	1992	3 years

Meeting the needs of those with Asperger syndrome or high functioning autism or able autism

3 In your view, how well are these students' needs being met at the current time by what the school/College can provide? (please circle)

Very well Quite well Not very well Depends on which pupil

Please comment further:

4 Do staff generally feel that the school/college is the most appropriate placement for these students?

- YES, all staff
- Some staff do, but not unanimous
- NO, most staff feel this is NOT the best placement

If **NO**, what type of placement do the staff feel would be better?

5 What might help the school/college to better meet the needs of these students, apart from more funding/adult support?

6 Do you have any support/advice from visiting professionals to the school/College specifically for these students?

YES NO

If **YES**,

from whom: _____

how often: _____

how helpful is it?

7 Do any of the staff have **qualifications** in autism/Asperger syndrome?

YES NO DON'T KNOW

8 Have the staff received any training on autism/Asperger syndrome?

YES NO DON'T KNOW

9 Are there good examples of practice in relation to these students which it might be useful to discuss further and share with others because it is innovative or very successful?

YES definitely Yes, possibly NO

If YES, please give brief details of this:

- 10 To what extent do you feel the views of the students with Asperger syndrome/high functioning/able autism are taken into account when decisions are made?

Good consultation Some consultation Not very much Not at all

NOTE: If possible, it would be helpful if you could send a policy document or school/college brochure to the Review Team at Birmingham which outlines what the school provides for students with Asperger syndrome/high functioning/able autism, when you return this questionnaire.

- 1 Looking back over the last 3 years what improvements have you seen in the school/college, if any, in the support provided for students with Asperger syndrome/high functioning/able autism and their families?

- 2 Finally, if you had three wishes, in relation to the support the school/college might provide for these students and their families, what would they be?

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With many thanks for your views and time, from staff at NICCY and the Birmingham Team.

If you would be happy for the Team to contact you to discuss any of the issues you have mentioned in this Questionnaire, please give your email and/or telephone number below:

My email address is: _____

My telephone number is: _____



Please return this questionnaire as soon as you are able to do so, preferably before the 28 April, 2006 :

by post to:

Dr Glenys Jones, School of Education, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TT

With many thanks for your time and views.