

The NAS promotes early diagnosis and intervention.

The traditional EarlyBird Programme empowers and supports parents/carers of pre-school children with a diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder.

In 2003 the EarlyBird Plus Programme was developed to support families whose child receives a later diagnosis (4-8 years).

**For information about local National Autistic Society EarlyBird Plus teams, please contact:**

The NAS EarlyBird Centre    Tel: 01226 779218  
Barnsley Road                    Fax: 01226 771014  
Dodworth                         Email: [earlybird@nas.org.uk](mailto:earlybird@nas.org.uk)  
Barnsley S75 3JT                 Website: [www.autism.org.uk/earlybirdplus](http://www.autism.org.uk/earlybirdplus)

**Your local EarlyBird Plus Team is:**

Inclusion and Intervention Team

[inclusionandinterventiontraining@milton-keynes.go.uk](mailto:inclusionandinterventiontraining@milton-keynes.go.uk)

01908 657825

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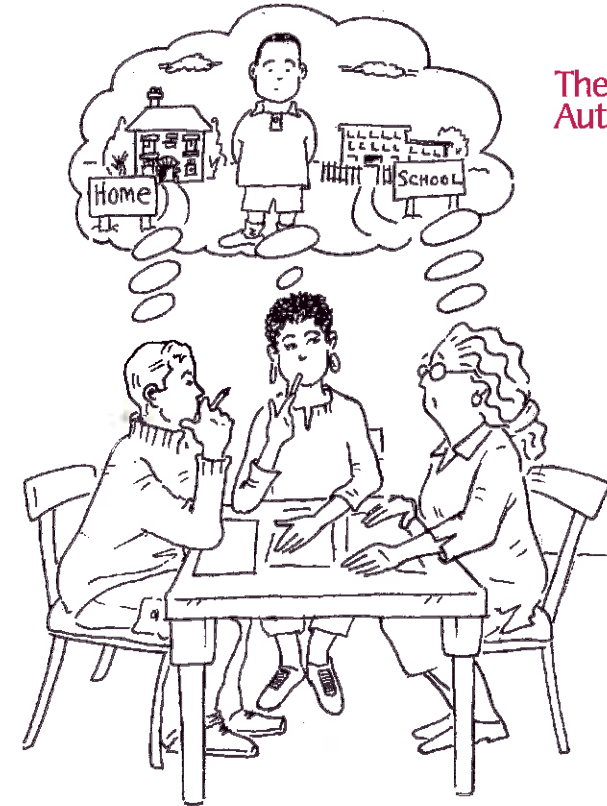
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## **The National Autistic Society** EarlyBird Plus Programme

A three-month programme for parents/carers of young children (4-8 years) with an autism spectrum disorder and for the professionals supporting them.

Your autism charity

## What is the EarlyBird Plus Programme?

Our EarlyBird Plus Programme is a three-month training programme involving eight group sessions and two home visits. This programme does not replace our traditional pre-school programme but offers support for families whose child receives a later diagnosis.

## Who can attend the programme?

Families of a child between the ages of four and eight years with a diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder can attend the programme. Three places are allocated to each family: two for parents/carers and one for a professional who is currently working with their child.

## When and where are the sessions held?

The eight group sessions are held locally on the same day each week. Each session lasts two and a half hours.

## Who runs the programme?

The programme is run by local professionals who have all been trained at The National Autistic Society EarlyBird Centre in South Yorkshire.



## What are the aims of the programme?

- > To empower parents/carers.
- > To encourage a consistent approach between home and school by training parents and professionals together.

## What will we learn about?

The National Autistic Society EarlyBird approach will help you to:

- > understand your child's autism
- > improve communication with your child
- > develop strategies to pre-empt problem behaviours and/or manage those which do occur.

