

What criminal justice professionals need to know about autism.

- They are often very vulnerable and can be easily influenced.
- They may be the unwitting accomplice in crimes.
- They may not respond appropriately when questioned as they may have difficulty in understanding what people are saying.
- They may become extremely agitated and find it difficult to modulate their voice.
- Their anxiety may stop them processing information and following instructions.
- They may not be able to make eye-contact.
- They may be sensitive to sound, touch or smell.

If you or someone you know would like a card, request an application form by contacting:

Helen Storey
Project Manager
Triple A Project
All About Autism

Telephone :
07818 410421

Address :
Garden Room, The Bridge, Penrith, Cumbria.
CA11 7QY

Project Email:
info@tripleproject.org.uk

Please note that we do require proof of a diagnosis on the autism spectrum before we can issue a card. This will be returned to you with your card.

Proof of a diagnosis can be a copy of any of these documents:

- diagnosis letter
- statement of Special Educational Needs
- letter from a professional eg. GP/social worker
- medical report or assessment.

Although the cards are free, there is a £1.00 fee for any replacement cards.



Autism alert card

ATTENTION!

I am on the Autistic Spectrum.

Important information on reverse side...



If you or a person you know has been diagnosed as having a condition on the autism spectrum you can apply for this **FREE** alert card

Accept difference NOT indifference



Produced in partnership with
Cumbria Constabulary

Do you or a person you know have autism (including Asperger syndrome)?

If so, you may have already been in a position where you have had to explain the nature of autism and its associated behaviours to someone you don't know.

Our credit card sized **autism alert card** can be carried at all times and can be shown if you find yourself in a situation where you cannot easily give an explanation about the condition.

The card is supported by by the Cumbria Constabulary and it will help them and emergency services to identify that they are dealing with someone who has autism.

We are delighted that we can offer this card free of charge.



The card gives some information about the condition, some simple advice, and space for the cardholder's name and two emergency contact details.

I am on the Autistic Spectrum.

- I am likely to be extremely anxious in unfamiliar situations
- I may become uncommunicative or nonverbal under stress
- My behaviour may appear to be unpredictable or inappropriate
- I will need the help of an autism trained advocate

Name:

With my consent or in an emergency please contact:

In addition to the card, The Triple A Project is providing information, advice and training to the Police and other emergency services. This will raise awareness and understanding of autism and give practical advice for real-life situations.

What is autism?

One person in 100 has autism. It is a lifelong developmental condition that affects how a person communicates with, and relates to, other people. It is also a spectrum condition which means that, while all people with autism share certain difficulties, their condition will affect them in different ways.

Asperger syndrome is a form of autism. Many people with Asperger syndrome are of average or above average intelligence.

Some people with autism experience over- or under- sensitivity to sounds, touch, taste, smells, light or colours.

People with autism often become extremely anxious in unexpected or unfamiliar situations. Anyone with autism should have access to an appropriate adult or intermediary when in contact with the police or emergency services.

This card will alert the Police and emergency services that the person carrying the card has a condition that may require special attention.

Why do emergency services need to know about autism?

People with autism can become extremely anxious and their behaviour may appear unusual or threatening to people who don't understand the condition. The sound of sirens, being touched or the smell of medications, etc may add to their anxiety. They may find it difficult to follow instructions. They often react differently to pain and may be in great pain without showing any outward signs.