

## Who are the family support workers?

- > The National Autistic Society employs two family support workers, Bev and Jane.
- > We both work part time and we may be able to vary the times we work to fit in with your family life.
- > We will try to respond to your enquiries, although we cannot help with counselling, advocacy or casework. When we cannot help with a particular request, we will try to refer you to someone who can.

## Other useful numbers

### NAS Autism Helpline

0845 070 4004

Open weekdays 10am-4pm

[www.autism.org.uk](http://www.autism.org.uk)

### SIGNAL

020 8857 9282

Local Lewisham parent support group for families with children with an autism spectrum disorder.

## Contact us

**Bev Meddens and Jane Keogh**  
Family support workers

**Lewisham Autism Support**  
Lewisham Carers Centre  
Waldram Place, Forest Hill  
London SE23 2LB

Tel: 020 8699 3066

Fax: 020 8291 5721

Email: [lewishamproject@nas.org.uk](mailto:lewishamproject@nas.org.uk)

If the answerphone is on, please leave your name and telephone number and we will call you back.

Lewisham Autism Support is funded by Lewisham Primary Care Trust, Lewisham Social Care and Health, and Lewisham Education and is part of The National Autistic Society.

The National Autistic Society is the UK's leading charity for people affected by autism.



The National Autistic Society is a company limited by guarantee  
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Lewisham  
Autism Support

Your autism charity

Contact the family support workers on  
020 8699 3066

## What is Lewisham Autism Support and why has it been set up?

- > Lewisham Autism Support provides support, advice and information to families who have children diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder.
- > The service is primarily for families soon after diagnosis but support can be given at other times of need.
- > Lewisham Autism Support was set up in July 2003 in response to parents asking for informed support straight after diagnosis.
- > It is part of Lewisham's plan for improving services to families, working closely with Kaleidoscope, Lewisham Centre for Children & Young People.

## Who is the support for?

- > Any family who lives in Lewisham with a child or children who have recently been diagnosed as having an autism spectrum disorder.

## What can a family support worker offer my family?

We aim to:

- > support families as soon as requested after a diagnosis has been given
- > help families to learn more about autism spectrum disorders and gain confidence in meeting their child's needs
- > offer a chance to think and talk with someone who will understand.

## We can provide:

- > information on autism spectrum disorders
- > information on national and local services for children with autism spectrum disorders
- > information on local services, eg education, health, social services and voluntary groups
- > information on related issues, eg benefits
- > occasional courses and workshops
- > practical advice, eg on how to help your child.

## How can we be contacted?

- > Telephone us on the Lewisham Autism Support number given in this leaflet.
- > Alternatively, email, fax or write to us at the address given.
- > Ask someone else, such as a friend or support worker, to get in touch with us on your behalf.
- > We can offer support by telephone, fax, email, letter or in person, by appointment.

If you have difficulty reading or understanding this leaflet, please let us know and we will make every effort to provide the information in an appropriate format.

