



**AUTISM**  
ACCREDITATION



**The National  
Autistic Society**

# AUTISM ACCREDITATION IN SCHOOLS

## Wilds Lodge School

Wilds Lodge School is an independent specialist boarding and day school for boys aged between seven and 18 with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties. All the students at the school have a Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN) or an education, health and care plan (EHCP). The school was established in 2007 and aims to place an equal emphasis on the educational, social and psychological development of each student.

## Reason for joining

“At the time of joining we were seeing an increase in the amount of autistic pupils referred to us. We wanted to ensure that we were doing everything possible to meet the needs of these pupils.

**“The Autism Accreditation programme provided us with a focused framework to evaluate and improve our autism practice across the school to ensure that we could meet the needs of pupils with autism.”**

“The programme also enables us to be part of a like-minded community where we can share practice and discuss new ideas with peers.”

## Benefits

“Working through the core and specialist standards has enabled the school to focus in-depth on areas of our existing practice and to evaluate our current approaches and further develop our understanding of autism and best practice. It has been approached from a whole-school perspective and helped to draw together all areas of our staffing in a consistent and cohesive approach. It has also given the school areas to focus on in the future and develop.

**“The adviser support we received was invaluable, guiding us through the accreditation process and providing us with advice on how we could further develop our autism practices.”**

“We also feel the review process was a positive experience and again an area in which it was possible to explore our approach and the thinking and processes which have shaped this. The feedback at the end was so positive but also allowed further development in the future. We have attended the network events, which were interesting and informative, covering a wide variety of subjects related to autism.”

**“The network events are also a good opportunity to meet with other schools in the area and share experiences and good practice.”**

Autism Accreditation was established in 1993 and now supports over 500 organisations to achieve and recognise good autism practice within their settings.