



CASS- About Us

The Caerphilly Autistic Spectrum Service (CASS) is part of the Resource Centre at Trinity Fields School. This team has been developed to support children and young people (CYP) with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The service provides support and advice for parents, families and school staff working with children and young people (CYP) up to the age of 18 years who have received a diagnosis of Autism.

Support is directed towards:

- Parents and/or Carers
- Children & Young people with a diagnosis of Autism
- Family members
- ALNCO's
- Teachers
- Learning Support staff & other professionals working with CYP

Referrals can be made by school staff or supporting professionals within health or social services.

Range of CASS Support

Young people aged 2-18 and their families can be **referred** to CASS by a supporting professional for the following support and services:

School Support - Support is available from CASS to empower schools to meet the needs of Autistic learners. This support may include modelling good practice, advice, preparing or loaning of resources and staff training. **CASS is not involved in the allocation of additional support hours or school placement.**

Home Support – Wherever possible we recommend that families engage in one of the training programmes available in the first instance. Families can then be referred into the service for a short, targeted period of support after training if still required. Support can include advice, signposting strategies, sharing of resources or referral to other appropriate services. **CASS does not offer any type of respite care.**

Referral forms can be requested via the CASS inbox at cass@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Training

Families and Young people can be referred to CASS for the following training courses:

NAS Early Bird- 10 weeks of training for Families with a child who has received a diagnosis of ASD aged 0-3 years.

NAS Early Bird Plus - 10 weeks of training for Families with a child who has received a diagnosis of ASD aged 4-8 years. If the child is in school a member of school staff can also attend the training with parents.

Barnardo's Cygnet Training – A 6-week parenting program for families with older children aged 7-18 years. The aim of the course is to increase parent understanding of Autism and guide parents through practical strategies they can use with their child.

Teenlife – Teen Life is an NAS six-session program for parents/carers of autistic young people aged 10 to 16 years. The aim of the Teen Life program is to bring parents together to share information, experiences and ideas in a structured way.

Understanding Me - a group intervention for young people with a diagnosis of Autism aimed at exploring what Autism means to them. Usually suitable for children aged 11 & over and is run in the comprehensive setting. Please contact the team for further information of groups.

ALNCo's can refer groups of young people to CASS for Understanding Me only. Contact CASS for further information and an "Understanding Me" referral form.

Autism Wales Website

www.autismwales.org

The CASS team recommends that all school/service settings complete the Autism Aware certification scheme, resources and information for each age group can be found on the website. Schools and families can also access this website for information and resources, training videos and more.

Training for school and other professionals

CASS can currently offer the following training packages as part of whole school/setting training or for smaller groups of professionals.

In addition to the training listed below we can also devise bespoke training to meet the needs of your individual setting or staff team.

Some of the training packages available include:

- An introduction to Autism
- General classroom strategies and approaches.
- Autism and Girls
- Understanding and supporting behaviours of concern,
- Understanding and meeting Sensory Needs

CASS Referral- Who do we work with?

Residency

To receive CASS support the family of the young person must be a resident of Caerphilly County Borough Council. CASS will provide school support for a young person educated in a CCBC school but living outside the authority.

Diagnosis

All CYP accessing the service must be recognised and known to the borough to have a medical diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Due to the extremely high demand for support and capacity within the team. CASS can only provide support to schools and families of a CYP with a confirmed diagnosis of Autism.

CASS Intervention

CYP can be referred to CASS for the following reasons:

- Advice within the education setting.
- Understanding behaviours of concern.
- Training courses
- Transition advice and support
- Developing appropriate routines
- Implementing suitable resources and strategies.
- Sign posting and general advice

Referrals

Referrals are made on a CASS referral form and sent directly to cass@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk Should you require any further information please contact the CASS team at Trinity Fields School.

Email: cass@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Telephone Number: 01443 866000

How we will use your information

The Caerphilly Autism Spectrum Service (CASS) will process referrals for support/advice either through training, home support, school support or communication support. We will collate the information relevant to your request, your identity and contact details for the purposes of providing you with a response and correspondence. Involvement from CASS will involve collating/sharing information with other services areas within Caerphilly Country Borough Council and other organisations such as relevant schools/educational establishments, Health Boards, Careers Wales, Welsh Government, Special Educational Needs Tribunal Wales, SNAP Cymru and other Local Authorities. Your information will be kept for 31 years from your child's date of birth.

You have a number of rights in relation to your information including the right of access to information we hold about you and the right of complaint if you are unhappy with the way that we have handled your request or your information.

For further information on how we process your information, and your rights please click the following link:

<https://trinityfieldschoolandresourcecentre.co.uk/media/d3zgrw4j/privacy-notice-cass-2022-final.pdf>

