

Why is my child different?



Many parents notice their child behaving differently from other children in the way they communicate and socialise.

For example:

- They don't make eye contact
- They don't talk to or mix with other children
- They run away and don't listen to their parents

It can be frustrating and overwhelming when your child behaves this way. But it doesn't mean they are naughty or bad. You are not a bad parent. You need to understand why they're doing this.

Help is available

If you notice any of these signs it's important to speak to a health professional. Here in the UK you can speak to a GP, health visitor or staff at Early Years Centres. You may feel scared of what you will be told. It may be autism and it might not be.

It's important to seek professional help early so that:

- You can learn how to help your child progress
- You will find other families who understand what you're going through
- Your child will benefit so much from early support

Top tips:

1. Understand what makes your child different
2. Record over a period of time what makes your child different by filming or keeping a written diary
3. Then contact a doctor or health visitor and share your concerns and evidence



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Produced in collaboration with Autism Independence