The Positive Partnership Factsheets

The Positive Partnerships fact sheets provide evidence based information about a range of topics and information about evidence-based practice generally. A number of fact sheets are currently in development. Fact sheets are reviewed by the Positive Partnerships Content Review Team which is comprised of national and international experts in the field of autism and related areas.

Go to...

- The Positive Partnerships website home / public page (www.autismtraining.com.au) and look along the top purple toolbar
- Click on About Autism
- Look down the left vertical toolbar and scroll down to Fact Sheets and click on them
- Click on any of the 8 fact sheets available for your access and use.

There are currently 9 Facts Sheets available on the following topics:

- Using Evidence to Guide Decision Making
- Effectiveness of Different Interventions
- Questions to Ask when Choosing Interventions
- Gluten-free, Casein-free Diet in Autism
- Vaccinations and Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Facilitated Communication and Autism
- Autism and Key Word Signing
- Savant Skills
- Welcome to Teaching
**Information about the Planning Matrix**

The Planning Matrix is a simple tool that provides a “snapshot” of the child with autism. It can assist parents and others working with individuals with autism to communicate effectively about how autism affects that child.

It is a highly useful tool that pinpoints the specific characteristics of autism that a child demonstrates. It allows parents, teachers or other support professionals to document the impact of autism on the child’s life and the key strategies that work to minimise the impact on the child’s daily life and learning.

Go to...

- The Positive Partnerships website home / public page (www.autismtraining.com.au) and look along the top purple toolbar
- Click on About Autism
- Look down the left vertical toolbar and click on Practical Planning Tools
- Then click on Planning Matrix

Here you will find some great background information including:

- What is the Planning Matrix?
- How can the Planning Matrix be used?
- Completing a Planning Matrix

If you scroll down to the bottom of the screen you will find:

- A video about using the Planning Matrix
- A copy of the Planning Matrix for you to download (word document).

**Information about Learner Profiles**

Developing a Learner Profile is a critical starting point for teachers developing effective educational programs and learning outcomes for children with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in any educational setting. A Learner Profile is a critical document in supporting school placement, with a focus on gaining a shared understanding of needs by stakeholders in ensuring individual student requirements are met successfully.

Go to...

- The Positive Partnerships website home / public page (www.autismtraining.com.au) and look along the top purple toolbar
- Click on About Autism
- Look down the left vertical toolbar and click on Practical Planning Tools
- Then click on Learner Profiles

Here you will find some background information about Learner Profiles and also:

- A video which describes the use of one type of profile and how these ideas were extended to another school setting
- And four different examples of Learner Profiles have been provided for use by parents, teachers, other school staff and allied health professionals (i.e. My Personal Profile; IGAP, Learner Profile 3 & 4).
**Information about Transition Plans**

People with autism spectrum disorders respond better to transition and change when it is supported by a planning process with involvement from key stakeholders. A transition plan is a critical document in supporting anticipated changes in a student’s environment. It focuses on gaining a shared understanding of needs by all those involved to ensure individual student requirements are met successfully.

Go to...
- The Positive Partnerships website home / public page (www.autismtraining.com.au) and look along the top purple toolbar
- Click on About Autism
- Look down the left vertical toolbar and click on Practical Planning Tools
- Then click on Transition Plan
- Here you will find some background information around transition plans and if you scroll down to the bottom of the screen you will be able to click on a copy of the Positive Partnerships Transition Plan form.

**Information about Understanding Behaviour / Positive Behaviour Support (PBS)**

Children with autism often exhibit a range of behaviours that can be challenging, confronting and confusing for their parents, teachers and others working with them. This section provides users with some concise and practical information around understanding behaviour and offers people a number of attachments that can be downloaded for individual use.

Go to...
- The Positive Partnerships website home / public page (www.autismtraining.com.au) and look along the top purple toolbar
- Click on About Autism
- Look down the vertical toolbar on the left and click on Understanding Behaviour

Attachments available include:
- A video explaining the use and elements of the Positive Behaviour support (PBS) Template
- Another video with one of the State Team Leaders discussing the use of the PBS Template (focus on team collaboration and student involvement
- Information Session notes on Understanding Behaviour. This document explores specific behaviour difficulties and challenges some children with ASDs face at school and home, addresses the purpose of behaviour and explores when behaviour is most likely/least likely to occur
- Copy of Most Likely/Least Likely Worksheet. This is downloadable for users to complete and document what is happening when the behaviour is most/least likely to occur (place, people, time and activity)
- Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) Recording Sheet.
**Videos about the topic of Whole School Approach**

In this series of seven (7) videos, school leaders from around Australia share their experiences of using a whole school approach to support the learning needs of students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. The school leaders reflect on what a whole school approach looks like in their respective schools, and discuss their own experiences, including some of the challenges they have faced.

Go to...

- The Positive Partnerships website home / public page (www.autismtraining.com.au) and look along the top purple toolbar
- Click on Whole School Approach
- Look at the purple vertical toolbar on the left side of the screen and click on Videos

The following videos are available for users to watch:

- What is the Whole School Approach?
- What does the Whole School Approach look like for a student with an ASD?
- What are the advantages?
- Share some of your implementation experiences
- Share some of your challenges
- Secondary school perspectives
- A great day for a student with an ASD.

**Professional Development & Parent/Carer Participant Manuals**

These PDF versions of the manuals allow you to explore the manual that supplements the face-to-face delivery. As the manuals are designed for this purpose, at times it may be difficult to make sense of the material without the context of the face-to-face delivery. Also some of the articles provided in the face-to-face manual are unable to be displayed electronically due to differences between printed and electronic copyright regulations.

Go to...

- The Positive Partnerships website home / public page (www.autismtraining.com.au) and then log in to the online learning portal (click on Login) or if you have not registered before go to New User? Register Now!! and follow the prompts
- Once logged in to the online learning portal look at the top left horizontal toolbar and click on Workshop Manuals
- Then click on either the Parent/Carer Participant Manual or the Professional Development Participant Manual depending on which one you want.
Information on Sensory Processing

People with autism often experience differences in the way they process sensory information which influences their behaviour, stress levels and ability to learn and socialise in particular environments. Although sensory processing issues are not currently included in the diagnostic criteria for the autism spectrum disorders, the presence of differences in sensory processing is very common among the autism population. It is critical for us to consider the possible challenges individuals may be facing and to develop appropriate individualised strategies to support them.

Go to…

- The Positive Partnerships website home / public page (www.autismtraining.com.au) and then log in to the online learning portal (click on Login) or if you have not registered before go to New User? Register Now!! and follow the prompts
- Once logged in to the online learning portal look at the top left horizontal toolbar and click on Workshop Manuals
- Then click on the Parent/Carer Participant Manual
- A list of documents will appear. Scroll down to the Information Session 9 - Sensory Processing file and click on it. This takes a while to download so be patient! Here you will find the Sensory Processing Participant Notes.

The Online Learning Courses

Go to…

- The Positive Partnerships website home / public page (www.autismtraining.com.au) and then log in to the online learning portal (click on Login) or if you have not registered before go to New User? Register Now!! and follow the prompts
- Once you have logged in to the online learning portal, you should see a picture of a little boy in the middle of the screen. This is Billy. Billy is a graphic representation of any child with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and has been designed to assist users of the Parent Information Topics Course; online interactive modules to understand issues relating to children with an ASD from their perspective. Whilst he sits on top of his world, he guides parents and carers through five online interactive modules.
- Look at the top left horizontal toolbar and click on Online Courses

Here you will find a number of online learning modules including:

- An Introduction to Autism
  This introductory eLearning module is designed to provide teachers, other school staff and parents/carers with an introduction to the characteristics and education of children and youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs).
- Parent/Carer Course
  This course provides parents and carers with online access to videos, information and activities that address the learning objectives of Day 1 of a Positive Partnerships Parent/Carer workshop.
By participating in the online course you will gain:

- a greater understanding of how the characteristics of autism impact on your child's learning at both home and school;
- an understanding about the processes and strategies for effective parent, school and teacher partnerships;
- specific strategies on how to advocate to support your child’s participation at school and ongoing learning needs; and
- strategies to strengthen your support network and how to link to local services and supports to meet your child’s ongoing learning needs.

The course is comprised of five modules. On completion of the course participants receive a certificate.

- **Information Topics Course**
  The information and strategies in these modules can be applied to all children with autism regardless of age, gender, cultural background or intellectual ability. The modules were originally designed for parents but feedback from teachers and others working with children with ASDs has indicated that the information, strategies and resources included in the modules are also highly useful to others who support or work with children with ASDs.

There are 9 information topics including:

- Making Friends
- Completing Work
- Managing Everyday Transitions
- Sexuality & Personal Hygiene & Safety
- Bullying
- Positive Behaviour Support
- Communication
- Siblings
- Creating Positive Partnerships

**Help!**

If you are experiencing problems with the website or need some help please contact us at AAETC through the website

Go to...

- The home / public page ([www.autismtraining.com.au](http://www.autismtraining.com.au)) and look up at the top right hand corner of your screen for **Contact Us**. Please click here and email us your question/query.