



Autism is **NOT a physical disability, learning disability or a mental health problem**



**Autism *IS* a lifelong condition
that affects how a person
communicates with, and
relates to, the world around
them**



**Autism IS NOT a condition which
only affects males**



Autism **IS more common than you
may think.**

**It affects more than 1.1% of the
population – approx. 7,800 people in
Derbyshire County**



**Autism IS NOT a childhood
condition which people grow
out of**



Autism **IS a hidden disability.**

**You can't tell if someone has it by
looking at them**



Autism IS NOT caused by bad parenting



**Autism *IS* often diagnosed later
in girls than boys**



**Autism IS NOT a condition that
needs to be cured**

**It is a difference which should be
celebrated**



Autism **IS often referred to as a
'social disorder' as many autistic
people find it difficult in social
situations**



Autism IS NOT often viewed as a sensory disability.

However many autistic people are often sensitive to sensory stimulus



**Autism IS often associated with
poor health outcomes due to
higher rates of social isolation
and lack of understanding
across services**



**Autism IS NOT a mental health
condition**

**However many autistic people
suffer with anxiety and depression**



**Autism *IS* a way of processing
information differently**



**Autism IS NOT people behaving
badly**

**Often behaviours are used as a
way of dealing with things they
find difficult**



**Autism *IS* a spectrum condition
which means there are many
different aspects which may be
present in some people and not
in others**



Autism IS NOT a tragedy.....

It is a difference to be valued



**Autism *IS* a different way of
seeing and interacting
with the world**



**Autism IS NOT caused by
vaccinations**



**Autism IS more common in boys
than girls**