

Using the Autism Education Trust training and tools to develop autism provision in Essex schools

Case study:

Great Berry Primary School



The school is a mainstream primary school in South Essex, with a significant number of pupils on roll who have a diagnosis of autism.

The school SENCO attended the Essex launch of the Autism Education Trust training programme in March 2015, and identified this as an appropriate programme to develop the school's capacity to meet the needs of pupils with autism.

The SENCO has taken on the role as 'autism champion' in the school.

She has accessed the '[Leading Good Autism Practice](#)' training, and joined the growing Essex network of autism [strategic leads](#), as well as attending the local 'autism champions' support group.

Whole school awareness-level training (Tier 1: [Making Sense of Autism](#)) was delivered to 28 school staff in May 2016, followed by practice-level training (Tier 2: [Good Autism Practice](#)) in October 2016.

Staff evaluations of training were positive, with indicators of **intended impact on practice**:

- Using the competency framework and assessment tools
- Helpful strategies to use in the classroom
- Put more visuals in place
- Will produce a more effective environment
- Review environment, strategies, communication with team
- It has given me an effective framework to reflect on practice/understanding
- I will have a greater understanding of why the child I work with does the things that he does!
- Implement strategies discussed – develop practice with regard to sensory issues
- I feel better equipped to support the children in my class



