



How do children with autism fare at school?

70% of children educated in mainstream schools

11% of children with special educational needs in state funded schools have a diagnosis of autism¹.

The number of Statements/EHCPs that list autism as the primary need has increased by 3% since 2010².

What about quality of teaching?

60% of teachers in England do not feel they have had adequate training³.

35% of teachers think it has become harder to access specialist support for children with autism⁴.

Risk of exclusion

40% of parents reported that their son or daughter had been informally and illegally excluded in the last 12 months and 20% had been excluded formally .

Government statistics show that children with a statement of special educational needs are six times more likely to be excluded from school than children with no special educational needs⁵.

Risk of bullying

Primary school pupils with special educational needs are twice as likely as other children to suffer from persistent bullying⁶

Fifteen-year-olds with statements of special educational needs are more likely to be excluded by a group of schoolmates or called names – a form of victimisation that is often referred to as “relational bullying”⁷

¹ DfE Special educational needs in England: January 2014

² DfE Special educational needs in England: January 2014

³ NASUWT Support for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs (June 2013)

⁴ NASUWT Support for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs (June 2013)

⁵ DfE Special educational needs in England: January 2014

⁶ Institute of Education 2014

⁷ Institute of Education 2014

What about academic achievement?

In 2012-13, 61% of all GCSE pupils achieved five A*-C grades, including English and Mathematics. This was an increase of 2% from the previous year⁸

In the same year, 26% GCSE students with autism achieved A*-C grades in those subjects. This was also an increase of over 2% from the previous year⁹

How do people with autism do after school?

Fewer than one in four school leavers with autism stay in further or higher education¹⁰.

77% of young people with special educational needs such as autism who take A-Levels or equivalent exams will go on to higher education, employment or training¹¹

17% of nineteen-year-olds with a disability (as compared with 7% of non-disabled nineteen-year-olds) report being 'fairly' or 'very' dissatisfied with their life so far¹²

Ambitious About Autism. 2016. Stats and Facts. [ONLINE] Available at: https://www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk/understanding-autism/about-autism/stats-and-facts#_ftn8. [Accessed 26 October 2016].

⁸ DfE GCSE and equivalent attainment by pupil characteristics: 2013

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¹⁰ Office of National Statistics (2009), Social Trends, No 39 and Data Service (2011), MI reports – Regional Learning Disability/Difficulty Report

¹¹ Office of National Statistics, Young People not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), August 2014

¹² Office of National Statistics, Young People not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), August 2014