

AUTISM

PART 2

Positive Features:

- honesty;
- live in the moment;
- rarely judge others;
- are passionate;
- have terrific memories;
- not tied to social expectations;

Prevalence

1 in 100 people are thought to be affected in the UK.

Asperger Syndrome (AS)

The most recent editions of the DSM and ICD diagnostic manuals do not include Asperger Syndrome as a separate diagnosis; individuals presenting with these characteristics will now be given a diagnosis of Autism. However, many students currently have a diagnosis of Asperger Syndrome. People with AS do not usually have the accompanying learning disabilities associated with autism, and their language skills are highly developed. However, they still have challenges understanding language and communication.

Routes to identification

GP and referral to a paediatrician and usually a multi-disciplinary team of specialists.

