

Families, Children and Young People Checklist

Some questions you can ask the service to help understand the support you/your child will receive		
How will the service meet you/ your child's social communication needs		Comments and actions <i>This is how I feel...</i> <i>This is what needs to be done....</i>
1.	Ask the service if staff will communicate using language that is clear, simple and easy to understand.	
2.	Ask the service if there are the appropriate resources to help with communication e.g. symbols, signs, pictures, easy to read written information.	
3.	Can you find your way easily around the environment, e.g. are there signs on the doors and walls, are these easy to understand, is the walk way clutter free.	
4.	Ask the service how they will support your child's social understanding e.g. turn taking, initiating / maintaining / repairing / terminating conversations, understanding nonverbal behaviours.	
Sensory needs		
5.	Ask the service if they will be able to meet you / your child's sensory needs i.e. visual, noise, smell, feel and co-ordination.	
6.	Ask the service if the environment is free from distractions, e.g. harsh lighting, bright colours, clutter, strong smells, repetitive noise, crowded.	
7.	Ask the service how or if they are able to provide a quiet, calm and safe space if needed.	
Support from staff		
8.	Ask the service who will be working with you / your child e.g. speech and language, psychology, mental health workers, community paediatrician.	
9.	Ask the service how they will work with other professionals to support you / your child if you have more than one diagnosis.	

10.	Ask the service if staff have an awareness of autism (and resources) to be able to build rapport with you and your child.	
Being able to make choices / Being involved		
11.	Ask the service if you / your child will be supported in a way that is individual and will suit them.	
12.	Ask the service if you / your child will be enabled to make informed choices around the support given.	
13.	Ask the service how involved you will be in the assessment / intervention process, e.g. will the family's expertise and knowledge be valued.	
14.	Ask the service if there is a forum to ensure you / your child's voice is heard throughout the process.	
For the family		
15.	Ask the service if and how they will support you to confidently meet your child's needs.	
16.	Ask the service if they will provide clear information to understand the factors that affect your child's emotional and mental wellbeing.	
17.	Ask the service if they will offer the opportunity to have a mentor or family support group.	
18.	Ask the service if there are opportunities to take part in a family / parent training programme.	
19.	Ask the service what resources are available to support your family and your child after diagnosis / intervention.	
20.	Ask the service if they can sign post to other support services in the area to provide more support e.g. the local voluntary sector.	
21.	Ask the service if they will be able to support your child to adult services if and when necessary.	