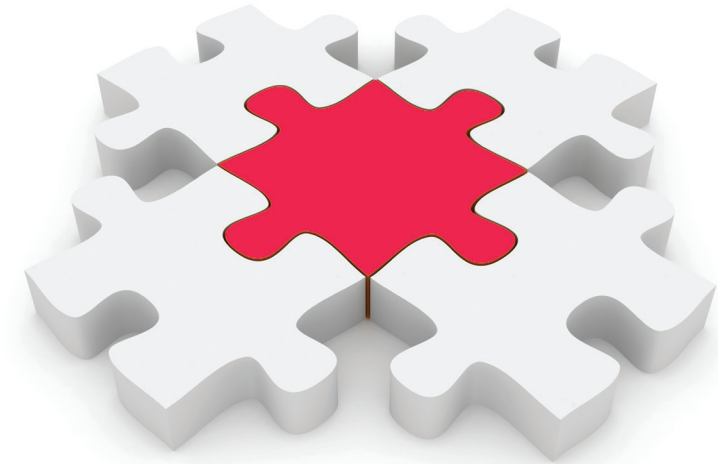


for more
information



what is
**asperger
syndrome**



For more information:

National Autistic Society:

www.autism.org.uk

NAS Helpline: 0845 070 4004

outlook:) SOUTH WEST

Outlook South West 2D Restormel Estate,
Lostwithiel, PL22 OHG Tel:01208 871414

www.outlooksw.co.uk

what is **asperger syndrome**

Asperger syndrome is a form of autism. It is a lifelong developmental condition which is thought to fall on the high functioning end of the autistic spectrum. It affects how a person makes sense of the world, processes information and relates to other people. For example: Asperger syndrome can make it difficult for a person to understand and predict the thoughts, feelings and behaviours of other people.

People with Asperger syndrome may develop intense, sometimes obsessive, interests. As a consequence, they often become exceptionally knowledgeable in their favourite subjects. People with Asperger syndrome can find unexpected changes in their daily lives difficult to manage and have a strong preference for routine and keeping things in order. Sometimes people can also have sensory issues, e.g. Hyper sensitivity to different stimuli.

Asperger syndrome affects people in many different ways and to varying degrees. You can not tell that someone has the condition from their physical appearance.

What causes it?

The causes are still being investigated. Research so far suggests that a combination of genetic factors may lead to changes in very early brain development. It is not caused by a person's upbringing, their social circumstances and is not the fault of any individual.

Is there a cure?

There is currently no cure for Asperger syndrome. Understanding of the condition is still improving and services continue to be developed. There are now many approaches, therapies and interventions which can help an individual to overcome some of the difficulties that they may have, as well as to celebrate many of the different positive qualities that are often also associated with a diagnosis.

how may a **diagnosis help?**



Although some dislike the thought of a 'label', a diagnosis can often help someone, as well as those around them, (e.g. family, employer, partner) gain a better understanding of their behaviour, difficulties and needs.

A diagnosis can also help the individual gain access to better tailored support, for example: at home, college, university or work.