Areas of difficulty

The term Social Communication and Interaction Needs (SCIN) can be used to describe children and young people with difficulties in any of the following areas:

Social interactions: Verbal and non-verbal interaction, play and friendship skills.

Flexibility & Imagination: Understanding (predicting what is going to happen and in what order), organisational skills, attention, restrictive and repetitive behaviour, and how they learn.

Sensory processing: Taking in and perceiving sensory information – including hyper (high) or hypo (low) sensitivity to the 5 senses, as well as balance and body awareness.

Communication: The way children and young people communicate, understand and use spoken and written language.

Some children and young people may receive a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). We recognise that others may also require additional support.

Our seven principles for services

- 1 Information and communication with parents, service users and carers should be clear and accessible.
- 2 Professionals should be knowledgeable about Social, Communication and Interaction Needs including Autism Spectrum Disorder and the support available.
- **3** Services should be needs led, not diagnosis led.
- 4 Services should be joined up and work together wherever possible.
- **5** Families need support throughout the journey: before assessment, during assessment, and after assessment.
- 6 Support for each age group, and pathways through services should be consistent across the city according to need.
- 7 Appropriate support should be identified at the earliest opportunity to avoid escalation of needs.

Social communication & interaction needs



Bristol's new direction for meeting Children and Young Peoples needs co-produced with Parent Carer support organisations.



