

## Who are we?

We are an organisation for Autistic Adults who do not have learning disabilities.

We founded our organisation to support the Autistic adults of Nottingham who are low needs. These people may have careers, higher education, families and live independently, and due to this are often denied access to services and support they could benefit from.

We are also one of the only organisations in the country that is entirely run by people on the Spectrum.

## Autistic Nottingham

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Twitter: @AutisticNotts

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[facebook.com/  
autisticnottingham](https://facebook.com/autisticnottingham)

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Phone: 0115 888 3223

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## Support Information

# Appropriate Support

Many of the Autistic people we work with are what would be classed as “low needs”. This means they do not need personal care (someone to help them toilet and bathe) or 24hr support, but do benefit from the help of a Personal Assistant (PA).

## How do I get a PA?

You will need to be assessed through your local Social Services for funding for a PA. A Social Worker will either come to your home, or you will see them as part of a service, to complete an assessment of your needs. If they find that you are eligible for a PA, they will work with you to explain what funding you will have for a PA, how many hours of support this will provide you per week/month and also who will provide this support. If you would like to consider Autistic Nottingham as your support provider, here's what we can offer you:

## THE RIGHT PERSON FOR THE JOB

We have a small number of PA's already on our staff who would be more than happy to work with you as soon as your support package is set up. Having a small team of PA's also allows us to have a back up should your regular PA be sick or on holiday. We would never send around a different person without asking your first.

### What can guarantee our PA's:

- Have personal experience and understanding in Autism Spectrum Conditions
- Undertake Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- Are supported by our team through internal training and meetings
- Are Enhanced DBS Checked
- Are Covered under our own “Employers Liability Insurance”

### Hiring a different PA:

Whereas our PA's are all that we have stated above, we know that many issues can arise such as personalities clashing, staff availabilities not meeting your routine, or even you having someone else in mind to support you. We are more than happy to support you in hiring a new PA to join Autistic Nottingham.

## “I have someone in mind”

If you have someone in mind, we can assess them for suitability by ensuring they are able to complete the work of a PA to a safe and acceptable standard, and that they are suitably checked and qualified.

## “I want to hire someone new”

We would be able to support you in hiring a new PA by working with you to draw up a job description. This would be based on information you give us and the aims on your support plan. We would then use this job description to put out a job advertisement. Once that advertisement has ran for the allotted time, we would work with you to create a short list of candidates and to interview them.

You would be the person who makes the decision as to which of the candidates we hire to become your PA. We would only decline your choice if we believed the individual was unsafe or was unable to carry out the role successfully.

## SUPPORT IN ACTION

Once we have the right person for the job, and your support is up and running, we will manage your support alongside you. Your PA will complete a timesheet every month that you will need to sign as accurate, and then that will be sent into us to pay your PA through your support funding. We will also be able to organise the booking of your support through the communication method of your choice, whether that's phone, instant messenger, video call or email.

