



April 2026

Autism Acceptance Month

Celebrate the Spectrum!

World Autism Acceptance **Week**: Thursday 2nd to 8th April

World Autism Acceptance **Day**: Thursday 2nd April

Why 'Autism Acceptance' and not 'Autism Awareness'?

Autism acceptance goes beyond awareness. It's about recognising the unique strengths and challenges of autistic individuals and ensuring they have the support and opportunities to thrive.

"Autism Awareness is knowing autistic people exist. Autistic Acceptance is about embracing them as they are, with strengths and weaknesses." (Lyric Holmans, NeuroDivergent Rebel blog).

What could your school do to celebrate?

- Post and share **autism acceptance** messages using the hashtags #CelebrateDifferences, #AutismAcceptanceMonth on social media and in your email signatures.
- Share **autism information** with your wider school community in newsletters, emails, and other partner communications.
- **Celebrate autism acceptance** at meetings, workshops, assemblies or other events for staff, pupils and parents.
- **Organise a fundraising** event for an autism charity

Involve your autistic students/staff in planning and delivery – what would they like other people to know? What changes would make life better for them?

Where can you find information to share?

National Autistic Society: [World Autism Acceptance Month 2026](#)

Neurodivergent Narwhals – Ed Wiley Autism [Acceptance Lending Library](#)
(neurodiversitylibrary.org)

Ambitious About Autism: [World Autism Acceptance Month toolkit](#) | [Ambitious about Autism](#)

Twinkl: Autism Acceptance Week [Autism Acceptance Week](#) | [Information and resources](#)

Autism Understood: [Autism myths - Autism Understood](#)

LCIS Free Parent Training Courses: www.newham.gov.uk/LCIS

Are there any videos to show in assembly/tutor groups?

Younger students:

[Autism Awareness - It's okay to be different \(youtube.com\)](#)

[Amazing Things Happen! - YouTube](#)

[Sesame Street: Thomas's Story](#)

[Arthur - When Carl met George](#)

[BBC My Autism and Me](#)

[What's up with Nick?](#)

[Can you make it to the end? \(youtube.com\)](#)

[TedB Talk 'What it means to be autistic' or 'understanding autism' \(youtube.com\)](#)

Older students:

[Young people explain autism | Ambitious about Autism - YouTube](#)

[Five Questions about Autism - YouTube](#)

[Autism TMI Virtual Reality Experience](#)

[Carly's Cafe - Experience Autism Through Carly's Eyes](#)

[Autistic Student Brings Happiness to Everyone | Yearbook - YouTube –](#)

[Libby's conference speech at Sheffield Autism Dialogue Conference December 2018 - YouTube](#)

[How autism freed me to be myself | Rosie King \(youtube.com\)](#)

How can you support self-advocacy more?

To advocate effectively for ourselves we need to:

- be able to show our likes/dislikes.
- understand our strengths and needs.
- know what helps us.
- be able to tell or show other people what helps us.
- know what we are allowed to ask for.



Supporting students to advocate for themselves is skill that will stay with them for life. The updated LCIS Guide to Self-Advocacy and Pupil Views: Our [guide](#) and [video](#) has ideas on where to start. There are some more ideas to support with self-advocacy here: [Self-advocating as an autistic young person | Ambitious about Autism](#)
[AET Self Advocacy Toolkit for Autistic Young People](#)

Another celebration date for your diary...

Autistic Pride Day Thursday 18th June 2026

Autistic Pride is when autistic individuals feel secure and confident, taking pride in their authentic, neurodivergent selves. This celebration day recognises the importance of pride for autistic people and its role in bringing about positive changes in society.