

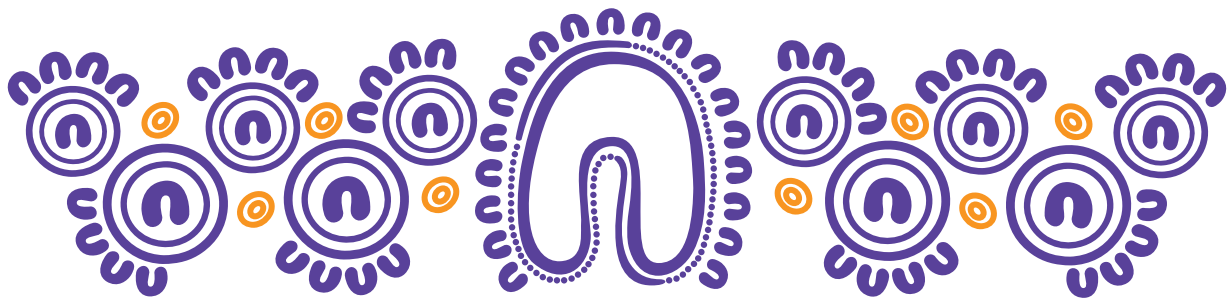


Fact Sheet



What is Autism?

Autistic people in our community have a variety of needs to support their way of learning and developing. Some autistic people need more support than others.



Some people on the autism spectrum might have some things in common, but they all different people with their own different needs.

Some people on the spectrum are able to be in community on their own and other people need support in school, community and home.

Everyone on the spectrum has their own strengths, interests and needs.

Autistic people need support across different areas like:

- Communication and social skills - the way we understand, yarn and play with others.
- Sensory processing- we all have 8 senses but we process them in our own way.
- Executive functioning- the way we think, plan and learn.
- Selfcare and independence- people on the spectrum might need support with stuff like toileting, dressing and their safety.



How many people are on the spectrum?

Anyone can be on the spectrum. Research shows that in a mob of 100 people, 1 or 2 people are autistic.

People can be diagnosed early or later in life.



Both boys and girls can be on the spectrum.

Boys are more likely to be diagnosed as autistic as we currently spot autism more in boys than girls.

Research shows that our environment and genetic factors play a role in people being on the spectrum. It is no one's fault.

If you're worried about your child, have a yarn with your doctor or other allied health people.

Diagnosis is about observing your child, yarning with them and your family.

People on the spectrum are part of every culture and community around the world.

