



Reflections on Diagnosis Challenges and Potentials

Each family responds differently when their child receives a diagnosis of autism. These responses have been gathered from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parents, carers and staff at workshops across Australia.

It was such a relief for us when he was diagnosed, as we had a suspicion he was different. Our boy is bright and we are learning how to support him.
Mum - Chermside, QLD

Our Grandson is non-verbal, but he is accepted by his community and loves his cultural dancing.
Grandparents - Nowra, NSW

It was very scary at first, but we have great family and community support. Attending cultural events strengthens others to know our boy.
Grandparents - Goodna, QLD

My Sisters and Mum are great supports, even though they were not accepting of the diagnosis at first.
Mum - Inala, QLD

What has helped?

- Learn from your child
- Learn about your child's interests and strengths
- Help your friends and family to learn about autism
- Accept support from your friends and family
- See potential to learn from each challenge

Challenges of the unknown, potential to understand them.
Mum - Redbank, QLD

We face new challenges daily, but are grateful to learn together. Our boy is so bright.
Mum - Port Lincoln, SA

Our family accept our child for how she is! We learn from her on a daily basis.
Parents - Nowra, NSW

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