THE ASC GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE

St. Nicholas Academy for Autism Trust Charity Registration Number 1104306 Edition No. 3 May 2006

STOP PRESS: GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE NEWS!!!

The ASC Good Practice Guide is delighted to announce that the Asperger Syndrome Foundation has contacted us, and very kindly offered to post copies of the Guide on the AS Foundation website! The AS Foundation values the quality of information in *The ASC Good Practice Guide* and considers it to be a worthwhile publication for their website audience. *The ASC Good Practice Guide* would like to acknowledge the generosity of the Asperger Syndrome Foundation and extend its gratitude to all our new friends at the Charity.

The Asperger Syndrome Foundation is a small London-based Registered Charity. Prior to its establishment in 2002, the Charity's Founder and Chair, Beatrice Buissenet, successfully undertook the tremendous task of raising the funds necessary to sponsor the first accredited Post-Graduate Course in Asperger Syndrome in the UK.

The Asperger Syndrome Foundation sponsors and subsidises high-quality Training and Support Days aimed at professionals in Education and Mental Health, as well being aimed at parents. These Days are subsidized by the Asperger Syndrome Foundation in order to make them affordable to all. All speakers at the Training and Support Days are specialists in the field of Asperger Syndrome.

For more information on the Asperger Syndrome Foundation, contact info@aspergerfoundation.org.uk

Please note- the Guide will be available on the Asperger Syndrome Foundation website in the imminent future, so keep assessing http://www.aspergerfoundation.org.uk The Guide will be found in the "Information Sheets" and "Links" sections of this site.

CONTENTS

Pages 1-2: Welcome to the ASC Good Practice Guide (includes information on the Guide and how to contribute information or to subscribe to the Guide).

Page 3: Family Support/Summer Playscheme, Resources for Autism, N. London

Pages 4-5: Local ASC Organisations/Clubs:

- 16+ Group starting up at Signal in Lewisham, S. London
- Football Coaching at Haringey Branch of the National Autistic Society
- SNAAP- free computer/art club in Barnet, N. London
- Aspirations, providing social opportunities for ASC residents in Manchester

- Page 5: Skill, the National Bureau for Students with Disabilities (aged 16+)
- Page 6: Welfare to Work/Workstep Programme- Jobcentre Plus
- Page 6: Salisbury Autistic Care- providing a lifelong learning environment to individuals with ASC aged 17+
- Page 7: South London and Maudsley NHS Trust Anti-Bullying Group for 11-16 year old males diagnosed with ASC
- Pages 7-9: Conferences, Lectures, Seminars and Sessions
- Page 9: Chrysalis School, Hertfordshire

WELCOME TO THE ASC GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE

Welcome to the third issue of the ASC Best Practice Guide, a new and free monthly resource for individuals with an autistic spectrum condition, professionals, and parents.

Which organisation does this Guide come from?

The Guide is written under the banner of the St. Nicholas Academy for Autism Trust, a non-denominational North-London based ASC and special needs charity.

Who writes and edits the Guide?

The Guide is written by Christine Haugh, and edited by Chris Mitchell.

Christine Haugh's two sons are diagnosed with autistic spectrum conditions. She works at Middlesex University for a DfES-funded organisation called Aimhigher, where her duties include Project Management of Aimhigher London North's activities for learners with special educational needs, including autistic spectrum conditions. For more information on Aimhigher, please refer to the Guide.

Chris Mitchell was diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome at University, at the age of twenty. For the first twenty years of his life, Chris felt that he was someone who didn't exist, trying to fit into a social environment he couldn't understand. However, once diagnosed, he found a reason for who he was and his self-confidence returned. Since his diagnosis, Chris has completed his MA (Hons) in Information and Library Management at the University of Northumbria. He has also become an advocate for Asperger Syndrome. Most recently, he has published the autobiography Glass Half-Empty, Glass Half-Full. Currently, he works as a clerical assistant with Durham County Council's Special Educational Needs Department. He also speaks about his experiences of Asperger Syndrome at various events and conferences throughout the UK, including the 2005 Aimhigher "Transition to University" Summerschool for students with autistic spectrum conditions, where Chris and Christine met, and at an annual lecture at the University of Northumbria. Additionally, Chris coordinates training workshops for professionals who work with ASC. To enquire if Chris is available to become involved as a trainer or a speaker at your event, please contact him at ChrisMitchell@mitchell.wanadoo.co.uk

To ensure accuracy and relevance, prior to its publication, the Guide was read and feedback was contributed by a range of individuals including relevant education and health professionals from a number of different Boroughs, individuals with autistic spectrum conditions, and parents. Each issue of the Guide will continue to be "proof-read" in this way.

What is the purpose of the Guide?

The purpose of this Guide is to provide practical support in the form of a one-stop-shop of information on existing good practice in the field of Autistic Spectrum Conditions, in relation especially to Transitions. "Transitions" is a broad term, encompassing phase transfer to nursery, primary, or secondary schools, as well as to further and higher education and even adult learning opportunities. "Transitions" also covers the area of transition between types of placement, for instance from specialist to mainstream, or from home education to school-based provision. Information provided in this guide will come from a range of reputable, identifiable sources, such as the DfES. Whenever possible, links to relevant websites will be included alongside the information provided. Always, the intention is to empower the audience by keeping them informed of existing good practice.

How can you subscribe to the Guide?

To receive the free monthly Guide, simply email ahaughc@aol.com with the words "Subscribe to Guide" as the subject! If you would like the Guide posted rather than sent via email, simply include name and postal address in your email.

How can you help this Guide?

Any reader, whether a professional, an individual diagnosed with an autistic spectrum condition or a parent, who is aware of any existing best practice relating to autistic spectrum conditions and who would like to share this information with others, is welcomed to contribute an article to this Guide! Please email Christine on ahaughc@aol.com if you would like to contribute an article. Also feel free to email if you wish to get involved with the Guide in another way, such as helping to reformat or distribute it! All help is greatly appreciated!

FAMILY SUPPORT/ SUMMER PLAYSCHEME

GOOD PRACTICE: RESOURCES FOR AUTISM'S REACH OUT PROJECT/SUMMER PLAYSCHEME (NORTH LONDON)

The ASC Good Practice Guide extends its warm thanks to Ann Woodward, Director of North London-based ASC charity Resources for Autism, for contributing the following information: Reach Out Project

The ASC charity Resources for Autism runs a project called Reach Out. This project provides support in the home for families with a child with an autistic spectrum condition. Trained volunteers work alongside parents on things that the family has identified as priorities, such as developing the child's communication, or helping to get out and about. The volunteers also support families by being a "listening ear."

Here is a recent success story (all names have been changed to protect privacy):

Daniel is a little boy of 3 with autism, who would not set foot out of the front door. This made things very difficult for his mother, Melanie, especially when she needed to take his 4-year-old sister to school. Reach Out volunteer Sally, worked with the family, and with Daniel's pre-school teacher, to help him get used to going out. At first, they aimed to get Daniel to stay outside for two minutes. At Sally's first visit, Daniel looked at her just once. As Sally played with Daniel during subsequent visits, he gradually increased in confidence with her and began to make more contact. With Sally's support, Daniel progressed from being in the rear garden, to standing by the front window, to being able to use the front door. The family was then able to visit the park, and even go away on holiday. Melanie was delighted at how Daniel had progressed, and the impact of Sally's support. She commented, "We were very grateful for this help and it was just when we needed it most. It was very successful, we achieved all we wanted to."

If you have a child with an autistic spectrum condition, and would like to receive support from Reach Out, or if you would like to volunteer to support other families, please contact Janet Palmer, Reach Out (Barnet) Coordinator, at Resources for Autism, on (0208)458-3259.

Summer Playscheme

Resources for Autism is also hoping to run a playscheme during the summer holidays this year (this is subject to securing sufficient funding, so is not confirmed yet). Last year, over 20 children and young people with autistic spectrum conditions attended the summer playscheme, which ran during three weeks of the summer holiday. Activities included swimming, a trip to Legoland, and visits to Cassiobury and Aldenham parks.

Places on the holiday playscheme are offered on a first-come-first-served basis, and always book up very quickly, so even though the 2006 summer playscheme is not finalized yet, it would help Resources for Autism if interested individuals could make contact as soon as possible. They will then receive information as soon as it is available, and so be more likely to be able to secure playscheme places.

If you have a child with an autistic spectrum condition, aged 8 or above, and would be interested in receiving information about a summer playscheme, please contact Resources for Autism's Play Coordinator, Catherine Ely, on (0208)458-3259.

LOCAL ASC ORGANISATIONS/CLUBS

GOOD PRACTICE: SIGNAL (LEWISHAM, SE LONDON)

Signal is a long established group for parents of children and young people on the autistic spectrum. It is a voluntary charity based in Lewisham, SE London, and run by parents. The group holds monthly evening meetings with guest speakers, coffee mornings, produces a bi-monthly newsletter and has an extensive library from which parents can borrow books, videos, and DVDs. Signal arrange family outings, run weekly trampolining sessions for ASC children and their siblings, and are in the process of setting up a 16+ group. For further information or to join Signal, please contact Jacqui Cook on (0208)857-9282. Thanks to Signal's Lisa Mace for contributing this information.

GOOD PRACTICE: FOOTBALL CLUB FOR 7-11 YEAR OLDS DIAGNOSED WITH ASPERGER SYNDROME/HIGH-FUNCTIONING AUTISM/DYSPRAXIA (HARINGEY)

The Haringey Branch of the National Autistic Society, Haringey Mencap and Tottenham Hotspur are running a football coaching club, Wednesdays from 4:45-5:45, on an enclosed outdoor pitch based at New River Sports Centre, White Hart Lane, London N22. Places must be booked. The club is directed at children in mainstream education who are unable to easily access organised sports opportunities. For further details, contact Richard Taylor at Haringey Mencap on (0208)365-0251 or Christina Heidensohn at the Haringey Branch of the National Autistic Society on (0797)630-5684. Thanks to Christina for providing this information.

GOOD PRACTICE: "SNAAP" CLUB- FINCHLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL/ST. NICHOLAS ACADEMY FOR AUTISM TRUST (BARNET)

"SNAAP" is an after-school club for families affected by an autistic spectrum condition. Funded by Barnet Council, the Club offers members the opportunity to socialise, develop computer and now also art skills, in a friendly environment where the entire family is welcome.

Every Wednesday term-time from 3:30pm-6pm, "SNAAP" meets at Finchley Catholic High School, Woodside Lane, Finchley, N12. There is parking available in the school car park. The Club is free of charge and run by Finchley Catholic High School with the **St. Nicholas Academy for Autism Trust**, and is open to **ANYONE** in Barnet with an autistic spectrum condition, all abilities and ages welcome.

Parents/siblings/carers and friends are also welcome, and snacks are provided (but anyone with special dietary requirements is invited to bring their own refreshments). The Club has a number of trained, established helpers for its members- students and staff from Finchley Catholic High School and St. Michaels RC Grammar School. Members can receive guidance on how to use the computer and the internet; they can also play games, do homework, create Personal Passports and more.

Art Workshops are now also being offered at the Club, at no cost, in an adjacent studio! For more details or to reserve a place, contact the Club's Project Officer, Christine, on (0798)404-9077.

We are also in the midst of organising summer outings! Our first scheduled outing is on 1st July,

when 48 SNAAP members are enjoying an all expenses-paid day out at Chessington World of Adventures! Places on this outing are fully booked but further days out are being arranged.

GOOD PRACTICE: ASPIRATIONS, PROVIDING REGULAR SOCIAL SESSIONS FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS DIAGNOSED WITH AN AUTISTIC SPECTRUM CONDITION (MANCHESTER)

For people who live in Greater Manchester who experience social isolation but would like to take part in different social activities, Aspirations can offer such opportunities.

Founded in 1999 by the NAS Manchester regional office along with the Autistic Society of Greater Manchester (ASGMA), Aspirations provides a diverse range of activities to meet the needs and interests of different age groups (10-15 years old, 16-25 years old, and 25+ years old) of people diagnosed with an autistic spectrum condition.

Within the organisation's premises together with a team of dedicated staff (4 full-time support workers, 1 part-time support worker, and a bank of dedicated volunteers), a wide range of activities can be pursued. Currently, Aspiration's Stretford base houses a Computer suite, a music room, an art room, and a kitchen. There is also a common room, complete with pool table and board games, for relaxing and socialising.

The schedule for organised activities is generally fixed for a three-month period for each of the three age groups. The details of activities are communicated to each group by separate quarterly newsletters, which also contain brief news items and contact details. The Summer season timetable is quite extensive offering over 20 activities including day trips. Regular activities include drop-in sessions, bowling, a cinema group and an Art class, with a local Art teacher attending. There are also opportunities for extensive 1-1 and small group sessions.

Every year also a holiday is arranged for each age group. These have taken place at Centre Parcs and also at Bendrigg, an excellent facility in the Lake District with an excellent range of outdoor pursuits on offer.

To find out more about Aspirations, please visit their website: www.aspirations.info Alternatively, written enquiries are welcome, addressed to: Aspirations, 1114 Chester Road, Stretford, Manchester, M32 0HL.

The ASC Good Practice Guide is grateful to Wendy Naylor from the NAS Manchester Regional office and Pete Halliwell from Aspirations for contributing the information on Aspirations. Please note that Manchester NAS Regional office is also running a Family Service Development Project. More information on this can be obtained by writing to The Family Service Development Project, Anglo House, Chapel Road, Northenden, Manchester, M22 4JN, or by emailing Project Officer Mari Saeki at mari.saeki@nas.org.uk

LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT FOR PERSONS AGED 16+

SKILL: NATIONAL BUREAU FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Skill is an independent, national charity that promotes opportunities for disabled people in post-16 education and work-based learning throughout the UK. Skill helps disabled people across the UK make the most of their learning and employment opportunities. They do this by operating an information and advice service, running conferences, producing publications, conducting research projects, informing and influencing key decision makers, and working with its members. Skill's Information Service is happy to answer enquiries from people with any kind of disability, including mental health difficulties, physical and sensory disabilities, learning difficulties, dyslexia, and autistic spectrum conditions. Common enquiries about education are about funding and other support available for students at college and university.

Skill's *Into...* series of careers guides include information on the routes into particular careers, profiles of disabled people who have successfully begun a career in the area and listings of sources of further information. Titles include *Into Law, Into Architecture, Into Science and Engineering, Into Volunteering, Into Work Experience, Into Nursing and Midwifery*, and *Into Art.* Check Skill's website for further details.

Skill's Information Service will be happy to answer enquiries from disabled people about post-16 education, training, and employment. The Information Service is open on Tuesdays from 11:30am-1:30pm and on Thursdays 1:30pm-3:30pm. Phone: (0800)328-5050 (voice);

(0800)068-2422 (text). Email: info@skill.org.uk. Fax: (0207)450-0650. The Skill website, www.skill.org.uk, also contains lots of useful information for disabled students, including downloadable copies of Skill Information Booklets.

The ASC Good Practice Guide warmly thanks Jo Marriott, Skill Information Service, for contributing this information

WELFARE TO WORK/WORKSTEP PROGRAMME- JOBCENTRE PLUS

Many Asperger's Syndrome students leaving education can often feel rather 'insular' within their learning environment, thus becoming largely oblivious to the outside world. However, recent government initiatives may be of help in reducing the anxiety a person with Asperger's Syndrome may face during such a transition.

Welfare to Work can provide support and guidance for applicants with any disability who are aged 16 – 65 years. For a person with Asperger's Syndrome, support can be provided to help with developing social skills required to both obtain employment and communicate effectively as an employee. This support can take many forms depending on the needs of individuals, and Development may take place with informal sessions of socialising in different environments on a casual basis with a support worker and sometimes, a mentor diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome already in employment can be arranged.

As far as hands-on employment is concerned, Welfare to Work will assist in job searching, submitting application forms, attending interviews and negotiating with Employers. Additionally, in employment support can be provided by Job Supports, who can work alongside an Employee in their workplace.

Elsewhere, for those with little employment experience, Welfare to Work can provide training for both clients and employers. Welfare to Work has a contract with Jobcentre Plus to deliver their Workstep Programme. This programme offers additional support and resources to people in employment for 16 hours or more each week. To participate in the Workstep Programme, clients must be referred by a Disability Employment Advisor from Jobcentre Plus – these are based in local Jobcentres and can be contacted for more information on the programme.

Hopefully, Welfare to Work can help a lot of people with Asperger's Syndrome avoid the anxiety experienced by others who have had to make such a difficult transition without much help.

If you would like to find out more about Welfare to Work or Workstep you can contact your Disability Employment Advisor (DEA) at your local Jobcentre or visit www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk

<u>LIFE-LONG LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS DIAGNOSED WITH ASC AGED</u> 17+ (WEMBLEY, NORTH LONDON)

SALISBURY AUTISTIC CARE LTD.

Salisbury Autistic Care provides individualised services to adults who have ASC and require person-centred care and support in a life-long learning environment.

Salisbury Autistic Care is registered with Autism Accreditation and work in partnership with local authorities and parents/carers. Their homes have communal spaces and single use bedrooms, decorated to individual preferences, with en-suite facilities. Each house has its own 24-hour support. Each service user has a structured timetable accounting for 24 hours, and staff encourage structured trips out into the local community. Although the baseline staffing level is 1 member of staff to two residents, this ratio can be increased. Apart from support staff, residents can benefit from the services of a variety of visiting professionals such as speech therapists Individuals must be over 17 years of age and have an ASC diagnosis. They can either be local authority or privately funded. Assessment is by trained professionals in the individual's current setting. The Admissions Panel comprises relevant professionals, senior management, and a member of the individual's own family.

Salisbury Autistic Care Ltd can be contacted via post at 28 Holt Road, North Wembley, HAO 3PS. The contact number for general enquiries is (0208)908-1760, or visit www.info@salisburyautisticcare.com

THE NHS AND ASC

GOOD PRACTICE: SOUTH LONDON AND MAUDSLEY NHS TRUST ANTI-BULLYING GROUP

The Trust's Autism and Related Disorders Clinic is based at the Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, London SE5. The Clinic is launching a study to establish the extent to which ASC boys in mainstream secondary education are bullied, the factors that make these boys vulnerable and how best to prevent and treat this problem. Therefore they will be running a programme of small group sessions for boys aged 11-16 years, who have an ASC diagnosis and who are being bullied at mainstream school. The programme will run for 10 consecutive weeks, each session lasting 2 hours, including breaks. The content of the programme will focus on pro-social and coping strategies for bullying. Role-play, modelling and discussion will take place, and parents will be invited to support their children by helping them to practice some of the strategies. Participation in the group/a wider study conducted alongside and beyond the group, is entirely voluntary. Participants are free to withdraw at any time. For children to participate, however, they will first require a brief letter of referral from their local CAMHS consultant psychologist or psychiatrist. GPs can also contact CAMHS on individual's behalf and ask for a supporting letter. For further information, please contact Jenny Ronayne, Child Mental Health Worker, or Dr. Katingo Giannoulis, Consultant Clinical Psychologist, at the South London and Maudsley NHS Trust, on (0207)919-2535.

CONFERENCES, LECTURES, SEMINARS AND SESSIONS

AIG CONFERENCE, DURHAM

ASC Conference organized by the Autism Interest Group (AIG) of the Tess, Esk, and Wear Valley NHS Trust. The target audience is professionals, parents, and carers. Speakers include Chris Mitchell, Paul Shattock, Luke Beardon, and Lynne Moxon. For further information or to book a place, please contact Carole Charters on (01325)555963 or Karen Thompson on (0191)513-6044. WHEN: Wednesday May 17th, all day

WHERE: Durham County Hall

Thanks to AIG Conference Speaker and *The ASC Good Practice Guide* Editor Chris Mitchell for providing this information.

NATIONAL AUTISTIC SOCIETY REGIONAL CONVENTION- LONDON AND SOUTHEAST

The Convention offers an annual opportunity for parents, service providers, voluntary organisations, professionals who work with or care for people with autism to share good practice. The focus this year is on regional education and leisure services for young people with high-functioning autism and those with Asperger Syndrome.

There's an exciting informative programme covering a range of services and projects. To attend, contact Judy Lynch on (0207)704-3800 or judy.lynch@nas.org.uk Confirmation of your place and a map will be sent to you- please note, places will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis. Please inform The NAS so they can make suitable arrangements, if you would like to bring leaflets or a display of the work of your organization to the event.

WHEN: 22nd MAY, all day from 9:30am

WHERE: Friends House, Euston, London

The ASC Good Practice Guide offers its warm thanks to Judy Lynch and also to Jane Vaughan, NAS Regional Coordinator, London and South East, for contributing this information.

ASPERGER SYNDROME FOUNDATION SEMINAR: TONY ATTWOOD/MICHELLE GARNETT, "MAKING FRIENDS AND MANAGING FEELINGS"

Dr. Tony Atwood and Dr. Michelle Garnett are highly-acclaimed Clinical Psychologists and experts

in the field of ASC.

WHEN: 12th May 2006, 10am-3:30pm, registration from 9:30am

WHERE: RIBA, 66 Portland Place, London W1B 1AD (between Regents Park and Oxford Circus

tube stations)

PLEASE NOTE: THIS EVENT HAS BEEN SOLD OUT!

TO LEARN OF FORTHCOMING ASPERGER SYNDROME FOUNDATION SEMINARS, please call (0207)610-4050 or contact: info@aspergerfoundation.org.uk

Thanks to the Asperger Syndrome Foundation for providing this information.

AUTISM SPEAKS- "SOLVING THE PUZZLE OF AUTISM"

Talks providing an update on the latest ASC research. These talks feature Professor Sir Michael Rutter and Professor Declan Murphy, both from the Institute of Psychiatry, and Dr. Jenny Longmore, Research Director of Europe Autism Speaks.

WHEN: Tuesday 16th May- arrive 7:15pm for a prompt 8pm start

WHERE: The School Hall, Eton College, Eton, Windsor, SL4 6DW (free parking on the parade ground)

COST: suggested donation of £5 per person, to cover costs

The same talk is also being run in Central London:

WHEN: Tuesday 23rd May- arrive from 6pm for a prompt 7pm start

WHERE: the B.5 Auditorium, Waterloo Campus, Franklin Wilkins Building, The Kings College

Theatre, 150 Stamford Street, Waterloo, London SE1 9NH COST: suggested donation of £5 per person, to cover costs

Refreshments are available for a small charge at both events.

Tickets MUST be booked in advance, and registration forms can be obtained by visiting: www.autismspeaks.org.uk, or by calling Autism Speaks Project Administrator Lynn Hart on (01491)412311.

Autism Speaks is also organizing a **Sponsored Walk** in The Great Park, Windsor, on Sunday 2nd July 2006, and enquiries about the Walk are also welcomed!

The ASC Good Practice Guide warmly thanks Lynn Hart for this information.

ASD-UK PRESENT A TALK BY PATRICIA HOWLIN: "LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THEORY AND INTERVENTION"

ASD-UK is the Association for the Study of Developmental Disorders.

Patricia Howlin is a Professor of Clinical Psychology at St. George's, University of London, who has been involved in research and clinical work with people with autistic spectrum conditions and their families for many years. Author of numerous publications in the field of autism and developmental disorders, Professor Howlin has been an invited lecturer in many countries across the world.

WHEN: 28th June, 10am-12 noon

WHERE: City University, Northampton Square, London, EC1V OHB. (nearest tube station- Angel) COST: £45 per delegate (cheques made payable to "ASD-UK" Please sent payment or invoice to PO BOX 38981, London N22 7XX).

For more information on Patricia Howlin's talk, contact Yasmin on (0208)363-9834/(0797)313-8595, or visit www.asd-uk.org

Thanks to Matty Chalk from ASD-UK for contributing this information to *The ASC Good Practice Guide*.

CENTRE 404 FAMILY SUPPORT- FOR ISLINGTON RESIDENTS

Centre 404 Family Support offers **free** sessions for Islington-resident parents of children with a special need. Please note that parents resident outside of Islington, professionals and others are also welcome to contact Centre 404 regarding these sessions! To book a place, contact (0207)445-8005 or (0207)697-1325. Sessions available this Spring include:

1. Speech and Language, led by Elizabeth Osbourne, Advisory Teacher for Language and

Communication.

Wednesdays 17th and 24th May, 10:30am-2pm

These sessions cover how children learn to talk, what speech and language therapy is, what therapists do, what schools do, and how parents can help their child to talk better.

2. Brain Gym, led by Kay McCarroll.

Fridays 9th and 16th June, 10:30am-2pm

Used in numerous schools, Brain Gym consists of basic movements which can help improve the memory, learning, and behaviour of children, whatever their age or ability. These sessions teach Brain Gym movements.

AUTSCAPE 2006

Autscape is a residential conference organized for and managed by individuals who have autistic spectrum conditions. People who attend Autscape can listen to an impressive line-up of speakers, meet other individuals affected by autistic spectrum conditions, or just relax in a welcoming environment.

The first Autscape was held in 2005 and was so successful that planning is currently underway for Autscape 2006! Please note than individuals who do not have autistic spectrum conditions are also welcomed! Children are welcome and childcare is provided, but if children require a support level greater than 1:6 than parents will need to arrange their own support worker.

WHEN: 31 July- 4 August 2006

WHERE: Somerset

COST: @£250-£300 per person, which includes full-board accommodation. To join the Autscape mailing list, email autscape-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Further information on Autscape is available on www.autscape.org and individual queries can be

addressed to autscape@paradox.freeserve.co.ukThanks to Autscape for proving this information

NEW AUTISM PROVISION

CHRYSALIS SCHOOL FOR AUTISM, HERTFORDSHIRE

Officially opened on Monday 5th December 2005, Chrysalis (registered charity number 1101424) is a special independent school for persons with autistic spectrum conditions aged 4-11. Chrysalis is a school dedicated to Applied Behavioural Analysis, ABA, and was founded by 2 Hertfordshire parents who themselves had previously been running home-based ABA programmes. It is the first ABA school to open in Hertfordshire.

Chrysalis has a Head Teacher, a team of Tutors, a Board of Trustees and an advisory body. Five pupils are currently enrolled at Chrysalis and the school welcomes applications both from further pupils as well as from ABA tutors. Volunteer support is also kindly appreciated. For further information on the school please contact the Head Office on (01438)714408, visit www.chrysalisschool.org, or email info@chrysalisschool.org

End of Third Edition May, 2006