

# Nicky Fink

Autism Team Practitioner

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**The Autism Support Team have a remit to support children & young people in schools, further education provision, and local authority pre-school settings.**

**The Autism support team provides child centred strategies and support for young people, families and staff within educational settings and aims to offer support at the earliest opportunity.**

The Autism Team **would not** be involved in the following activities:

- Undertaking complex developmental assessments including Autism diagnosis
- Assessment of specific learning barriers

## My Areas of Interest...

Co-occurring conditions that impact on Autism, anxiety and engagement.

Early Years support and getting the right support at the right time.

## What is important to me...

- My family and friends
- Doing the best job possible to support the children, families and settings
- Wellbeing and good mental health

## What I don't like...

- Breakout rooms
- Long training with no breaks
- Judgemental people

## What I might do in school...

- observations, consultations and advice
- offer practical strategies for supporting individuals with autism and social communication difficulties
- direct interventions with children both individually and in groups
- Individual and small group work for social communication and interaction skills
  - emotional regulation and self-esteem
- demonstrate TEACCH approaches in the classroom and support and model the use of PECS, Social Stories, Comic Strip conversations and Lego based therapy
  - provide input into EHCP processes
    - offer transition support
- provide training for developing skills for working with children with autism and social communication difficulties

## About me:

I have worked in this team for almost 3 years, but previously as an EHCP coordinator, a Family Support Worker and SENDCo in a nursery setting.

I like reading 📖, walking on the beach 🏖️ and cooking 🍳

