

Early Bird Programme

Parents Comments

"Before the programme I felt I knew little about my son's world but now I understand much more about how he experiences things".

"We understand now that our daughter doesn't get upset and anxious to be naughty but because something is upsetting her or she cannot understand the situation she is in".

I would like to attend the EarlyBird Plus, what do I do now?

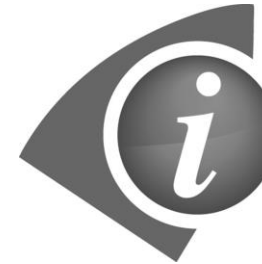
Request a referral form to register an interest in the programme by emailing us slt.sdhct@nhs.net

Or phoning:
The Speech & Language Therapy Service
☎ 01803 655581

Torbay and South Devon



NHS Foundation Trust



**PATIENT
INFORMATION**

NAS EarlyBird*

Early Intervention in Autism



***EarlyBird** is a registered trademark of the
National Autistic Society

The NAS EarlyBird Programme:

- ◆ For parents/carers of children under 5 with a diagnosis of autism.
- ◆ Is a 3 month programme for 6 families at a time.
- ◆ Involves families being visited in their own homes, during the programme;
- ◆ Aims to complement other services and facilitate parent networking;
- ◆ Offers hope, but not a cure.

The NAS EarlyBird Programme works in partnership with parents to help them to:

- ◆ Understand their child's autistic spectrum disorder;
- ◆ Develop their child's communication;
- ◆ Apply practical strategies to manage behaviour;
- ◆ Increase skills, knowledge and confidence;
- ◆ Learn with and from other parents at group sessions.

Where are groups run?

EarlyBird is run regularly in South Devon. Sessions are run term-time only, depending on numbers.

Do I have to attend all sessions?

If possible, yes. You will gain a lot more from coming to the group if you come to all sessions. This is because each session builds on the one before. Please do not accept a place on a programme if you are only able to attend 1 or 2 sessions.

For further information regarding Children & Disabilities and organising leave from work please refer to the Working Families website www.workingfamilies.org.uk or telephone 0300 012 0312.