

Newsletter

January

2024



South West Autism, 6 Sandpiper Court, Harrington Lane, Pinhoe, Exeter, EX4 8NS  
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*Hello to all our families,*

We hope you've all enjoyed a calm and relaxing Christmas and New Year? We know all too well how challenging the festive period can be and hope you were all able to enjoy some peaceful family time.

As 2024 begins, it looks set to be another extremely busy and exciting year and we're excited for you and your children and young people to be a part of this with us.

We will look at developing other services during 2024 and welcome any input or suggestions from you all. We greatly value all input and feedback.

Here's hoping that the year ahead is everything you want it to be!

*Lisa, Greg and the Team*



## Our New Year's Resolution!

**"We will endeavour to continue delivering high quality services, support and training. We are committed to empowering young people to overcome barriers in order to reach their full potential."**

## We are extremely proud of the work we have carried out in 2023; here are just a few of our achievements: -



We have delivered a wide range of services to individuals and organisations across Devon.



We have run two social communication and life skills groups with the aim of reducing social and geographical isolation and to provide opportunities for independence skills (these groups will continue in 2024).



We have forged a partnership with the National Trust to increase the opportunities for our young people.



We have received excellent feedback for our training in schools, colleges and local organisations.



We have increased our team members to accommodate the high levels of requests for family support, mentoring, homework support and 1-1 work with young people.



We have developed our tutoring and mentoring services and are currently in high demand from schools and the local authority.



We have moved into our new centre and the young people we work with are enjoying the new facilities and resources - cooking and food tech are a firm favourite together with our sensory room.



## MEET THE TEAM

**Fiona** *"I have been working for South West*

*Autism since 2020 (coming up 4 years now). I have two sons aged 18 and 20. My eldest is autistic and this is how I was introduced to Lisa and Greg who started working with him from the age of 11.*

*I absolutely love working with all the young people though SWA – they are a pleasure to work with and I am truly blown away by their individual talents. I work with young people either on a 1-1 basis funded by education but also out of school doing a variety of things such as working on life skills, promoting*

*independence and confidence in the community. I also help out at the teen life skills group."*



**We are currently recruiting self-employed sessional workers to join our brilliant team!** Do you have experience supporting young people on the autistic spectrum? Are you willing to undertake training in all aspects of ASD? Want to work in a role making a difference to young people's lives? Hours are term time only and usually within school hours. Excellent hourly rate.

**You must have** An Enhanced DBS- Liability insurance, Be registered as self-employed - Have your own car with business class insurance - Have qualifications or significant experience regarding ASD.

To register your interest email [southwestautism@gmail.com](mailto:southwestautism@gmail.com) in the first instance. Tell us a little bit about yourself, your experience and why you would like to join our team? We would love to hear from you!



Dates	Events
09.01.24	Adult Social Group returns after Christmas break
10.01.24	Teenage Life Skills Group returns after Christmas break
12-16 Feb	1-1 Mentoring/Enabling available during half term break

## Teenage Life Skills Group

We currently have spaces in our Teenage Life Skills Group! This group is open to 11-17 year olds and runs on alternate Wednesday (6 pm to 8 pm) at our centre in Pinhoe. The group costs £20 per session, payable monthly. If you would like to register your teenager or would like more information, please email us at [infoswautism@gmail.com](mailto:infoswautism@gmail.com).



**Wishing you all a very happy, healthy and calm 2024!**

**We'd love to hear from you!** If you would like to share any information with us, make suggestions or simply share an achievement that needs to be celebrated please email us your comments. We welcome all feedback from our families and the young people that use our services. You can fill out the slip below and hand it to us in person or by post or simply email your comments.

**Feedback:-**

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