

# INTRODUCING



## IRELAND'S ONE-STOP SHOP FOR THE AUTISM COMMUNITY.

**Autism is a lifelong, developmental disability that affects how a person communicates, relates to other people and how they experience the world around them.**

As many as 1 in 100 people in Ireland are estimated to be autistic. The condition is widely known yet it is not widely understood. Autism is a spectrum which means that no two people diagnosed with it will have the same experiences. One person may seem fairly able and only feel anxious when routine is disrupted; another may seriously struggle with day-to-day interactions and need full-time care.

AsIam - **Autism Spectrum Information Advice Meeting Point** - is an organisation which aims to support and empower autistic people living in our communities. We work to make our society more inclusive and understanding of autism through education, engagement and advocacy.

Founded by Adam Harris, who is autistic himself, and a Board of Directors made up of parents and professionals with personal experience of autism, AsIam.ie provides online information and support on all aspects of the condition.

Our core objective is to help all autistic individuals to participate as fully as possible in education, employment and wider society.



**ASIAM.IE  
SERVES 3 KEY  
COMMUNITIES**

### PROFESSIONALS

AsIam runs training programmes for professionals working with autistic people within a variety of different settings. These aim to inform and develop best practices for engaging with autistic colleagues, customers, employees, patients and students by understanding their needs. Online tools and resources are also available from our website to progress new and existing strategies for autism awareness in the workplace.

### THE AUTISM COMMUNITY

We provide online resources for autistic individuals and their families through our website. It is researched and easy-to-understand information covering all aspects of autism, from explaining the diagnostic process to setting out what the available supports are at school and work. Building connections between members of the autism community is an important part of this. We invite visitors to share their stories with us through blogs and interviews.

### THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Autistic people live and work in every community across Ireland. It is an 'invisible disability' which is often missed by those not living with the condition. AsIam actively works with different partners to start the conversation about autism. We offer a range of tools to help stakeholders make their settings autism-friendly. The attitudes and actions of those who we live and work with makes a huge difference to how well an autistic person takes part in and benefits from society.

**We seek to help the public to become more understanding and supportive of the autistic people that they encounter – every one of us can make a hugely positive difference to the lives of people we know on the Autism Spectrum.**

Successful autism awareness is a community-wide effort. Together, we can share new ideas and actively work towards building an understanding and inclusive Ireland for autism.

AsIAM welcome all those who share our vision and want to get involved in our work. Whether you're autistic yourself, have a family member or work with someone who is, or none of the above, an interest in all things autism is what matters!

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## HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

### HELP US ONLINE

If you're interested in blogging for our website, or spreading our message and work on social media, get liking and retweeting! Follow us across social media at @AsIAMireland!

### VOLUNTEER

We're committed to delivering our message to communities around the country – and we need local people and support groups to help.

### DONATE

SCAN  
ME!



Link: <https://asiam.ie/donate>

### JOIN OUR SCHOOL SPEAKER PROGRAMME

We're currently looking for volunteers to work with us to deliver a major educational programme in secondary schools across Ireland focused on raising awareness among students about autism.

### BECOME A CHAMPION

Autism awareness begins with one person. AsIAM is recruiting for our Champions Network where we train activists and advocates to spread the message of autism inclusion in their local communities.

### ORGANISE A FUNDRAISER

You can support autistic people and their families in so many ways by raising money. Organise a run, a walk, a cycle or social event. Get in touch with us to discuss your fundraiser activity.

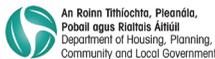
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### CONTACT US

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