



What causes autism?

We still do not know what causes Autism but what we do know is it is not due to anything that parents have done or not done before birth or early on in the child's life. Children from all countries and backgrounds can equally be affected by Autism. Both boys and girls can be affected by Autism as can children with all different levels of intelligence.

There is a lot of research currently underway looking into the potential causes of Autism. Experts currently believe that autism is caused by interaction between several complex genetic and environmental factors. However, at present these factors are not properly understood.

There was previous attention in the media about the relationship between childhood vaccinations and autism however research has provided NO EVIDENCE that childhood vaccinations cause Autism.

Is there a cure for Autism?

Autism is a lifelong condition and there is currently no cure but there is a lot that parents and professionals can do which will help the child with autism achieve to their full potential.

Children do not 'grow out of' autism and therefore it is not in a child's best interests to wait and see what happens over future months and years. Early support is key for helping your child achieve to their full potential. Therefore, as soon as you have any concerns, please raise them with your child's doctor.

Although there is not a cure for Autism itself, there are many



approaches and therapies which can be used help develop skills in attention, play, social skills and communication. Support from everyone involved with the child will help your child to access education and society to their maximum potential and decrease the impact of Autism on their lives.

Will my child get better? Will the autism go away?

Autism does not go away but, with the right support, children can learn to communicate and access education, work and society to their full potential. The Autism will always be there but, with the right support, the impact of it on their lives will be less.

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