

Core brief

Friday, 29 March 2019

Introduction

This issue brings you information about national Autism Awareness Week.

GLASGOW DOCTOR'S HOPES FOR THE FUTURE FOR PEOPLE DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM

A Glasgow autism specialist today expressed her hopes that society is getting closer to the day when, for many people with autism, the condition will simply be seen as a developmental difference, rather than a disorder.

Speaking before national Autism Awareness Week (1-7 April) Dr Lucy Reynolds, a Consultant Paediatrician with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, says with the right support and input a child's life can be 'transformed' following an autism diagnosis.

Dr Reynolds said: "In the assessment of preschool children, we are working better at describing each individual child's developmental profile - their strengths as well as what they find challenging - so as to support them and their families accordingly, be that with strategies to improve their communication, sleep, self care skills or to reduce the impact of sensory processing difficulties.

"Autism is talked about much more now. We are helped in explaining autism to a family, and the ways they can help, by the dramatic rise in excellent digital resources, including the National Autistic Society's website, Scottish Autism's "Right Click" online courses for parents of young children, teens and adults with autism (and their newer course for Women and Girls).

"There is also a host of blogs and youtube films featuring adults and children with autism spectrum conditions, including Chris Packham's fabulous documentary "Aspergers and Me". All of these things contribute to greater public understanding of autism, and awareness of neurodevelopmental diversity." [Click here to read more.](#)

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