

Services that are available to help families of children with autism
(For families in Bristol: Updated May 2020)

If you are finding it difficult to manage things at home then do have a think about calling on some local support – some key services are listed below:

BASS (Bristol Autism Support Service)

Provides support and services for adults with autism. Online guidance is also available from their website: www.awp.nhs.uk/bass email awp.bass@nhs.net

Telephone: 01275 796204

Bristol Autism Team

Information, advice and family learning courses for parents and families of children with autism

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/web/bristol-local-offer/support-for-parents-of-children-with-autism>

Hotline email address: Bristol.Autism.HotLine@bristol.gov.uk

Bristol Coronavirus Hotline (funded by Bristol City Council)

Telephone: 0800 694 0184

A free telephone hotline has been launched in Bristol to help the city's most vulnerable citizens during the coronavirus pandemic.

Call handlers are available from 8.30am-5pm, Monday to Friday and 10am to 2pm Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays to provide support for people with a wide range of needs, including obtaining food supplies, other essential items and medication. They can also help arrange follow-up support with different organisations.

First response (access point to social care and sharing concerns)

To discuss concerns relating to a child's safety or domestic violence:

Telephone: 0117 903 6444

A range of local support services for keeping children and young people safe are listed at the following web address:

<https://bristolsafeguarding.org/children/i-am-a-carer/support-services/>

National Autistic Society

The Autism Helpline is open from Monday to Thursday, 10am - 4pm, and 9am - 3pm on Fridays. Call 0808 800 4104.

Guidelines for coronavirus coping are also on the website:

<https://www.autism.org.uk/>



Off The Record

Therapeutic support for 11-25 Year olds in Bristol. Support starts with an accessible website for young people. Therapy and group support is also available.

www.otrbristol.org.uk

hello@otrbristol.org.uk

Telephone: 0808 8089120

Supportive Parents (Bristol)

For advice and support from other parents, supportive parents are particularly skilled at supporting with difficulties relating to education/school and can help with setting up meetings/communication and/or giving advice about where to start to move things on for your child.

Helpline: 0117 9897725 or email support@supportiveparents.org.uk

Open from 9.30am – 4.30pm, Monday to Friday, with an answerphone available at all other times.

SupportLine

Providing confidential emotional support to children, young people and adults on any issue including domestic violence. They can help also help with sourcing support locally.

Telephone: 01708 765200 or email: info@supportline.org.uk

The Disabled Children Service (Bristol City Council) provides a range of assessments and services for children with disabilities (including autism) where additional assessment support is needed:

Telephone : 0117 903 8250 or Email: disabledchildren@bristol.gov.uk

We Are Bristol Kids hub

An interactive hub for children in Bristol. Stories, art tips, P.E, games, competitions and ways for children and families to get involved.

www.wearebristol.co.uk/kids/

Young Minds Crisis Messenger

Text: Text YM to 85258

24-hour text support for young people experiencing a mental health crisis; texts are free from EE, O2, Vodafone, 3, Virgin Mobile, BT Mobile, GiffGaff, Tesco Mobile and Telecom Plus.



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Services that can help with bereavement:

Cruse Bereavement Care (Telephone: 0808 808 1677)

A free helpline supporting anyone who has been bereaved by death, open Monday to Friday 9.30-5pm (excluding bank holidays), and 8pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. This service is confidential, offering a 1-1 service to clients in their own homes and promotes the wellbeing of bereaved people.

Website: www.cruse.org.uk

Childhood Bereavement Network: A website helpful sharing information about support, supporting children during COVID with bereavement and others' stories:

www.childhoodbereavementnetwork.org.uk

National Autistic Society

Has a section on supporting children and adults with autism

<https://www.autism.org.uk/about/family-life/bereavement.aspx>

Hope Again (Telephone: 0808 808 1677)

This youth bereavement service, run by Cruse, is free and confidential. It is available Monday to Friday, 9:30am - 5pm and is just for children and young people who have been affected by death. Support includes a helpline, website and peer support.

Website: www.hopeagain.org.uk

Winston's Wish (Telephone: 08088 020 02)

A national helpline for anyone caring for a child coping with the serious illness or death of a family member. They are a leading childhood bereavement charity and the largest provider of services to bereaved children, young people and their families in the UK.

Website: www.winstonswish.org.uk (This website allows you to send messages and receive a reply).

