

National Autistic Society Rotherham Branch Behaviour Policy

As a branch we enjoy holding activities for local families and see them as a positive outlet for both parents/carers and children. As volunteers we see holding these types of events as a key part of what NAS Rotherham Branch does and we remain committed to these sessions taking place.

To continue to facilitate these sessions happening and to maximise the enjoyment of all families and volunteers at the sessions, NAS Rotherham has introduced a behaviour policy in order to keep our sessions running as smoothly as possible.

We do appreciate the challenges that raising a child on the autistic spectrum brings and we understand that things can be difficult at times, but we also have to consider the impact that challenging situations could have on other families at our branch's events. We hope that by introducing this policy we can help to ensure that all families at our events are happy, safe and treated with respect.

- **Parents/carers are responsible for the behaviour of their own child on the premises.**
- The branch **does not accept** continued and repeated behaviour of the following kind:
 - Aggressive behaviour towards others
 - Destruction of property
 - Inappropriate language and/or behaviour
 - Running around where it is unsafe to do so i.e. where food and drink is being brought out and served.

Methods of managing behaviour

If your child is struggling during the session, then they **must be** removed into a quiet area for safety reasons as soon as possible. The child may return once calm, however repeated breaches of the behaviour policy will not be tolerated. Other methods for managing behaviour include:

- Bringing any comfort items or anything that would calm your child e.g. headphones/music
- Distraction with lots of positive praise
- Preparing your child for what to expect at the session before the event

If unacceptable behaviour continues despite your child being taken into a safe space, and other methods have failed, we reserve the right to ask your family to leave. This is not just for the safety of your child but for the safety of others around them. We hope that all families who attend our activities stay for the duration of the session if they wish to, but we may have to consider the above action if necessary.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and understanding.

NAS Rotherham Branch