Autism: the positives



Understanding, embracing and celebrating different ways of thinking and doing can release the true power of the autistic mind. Here we look at the positive features of autism.



Attention to detail

- Thoroughness
 - Accuracy



Deep focus

- Concentration
- Freedom from distraction



Observational skills

- · Listen, look, learn approach
- Fact finding



Novel approaches

Methodical approach

Unique thought processes

Spotting patterns, repetition

Innovative solutions



Creativity

Analytical

- Distinctive imagination
- Expression of ideas

Determination



Absorb and retain facts

- Excellent long term memory
- Superior recall



Visual skills

- Visual learning and recall
- Detail-focused



GOAL

Accepting of difference

Tenacity and resilience

- Less likely to judge others
- May guestion norms

Challenge opinions



Expertise

- In-depth knowledge
- High level of skills



Integrity

- Honesty, loyalty
- Commitment

Remember

Every experience of autism is unique. No one person will identify with every positive feature of autism. We all have individual skills, attributes and characteristics that are as unique as our personalities – this is the **power** of neurodiversity.

Harriet Cannon **Disability Services, February 2018**

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