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Integrated Autism Service (IAS) North Wales Update- February 2018



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Background to the IAS

Many autistic individuals fall between eligibility for mental health and learning disability services and so cannot access emotional, behavioural, low level mental health and life skills support.

In response the Welsh Government has committed £13 million up to 2021 to develop an Integrated Autism Service across Wales. The IAS will provide new adult diagnostic services; lifelong support for autistic individuals (children and adults) their families and carers; help with transition from child to adult provision and training for professionals.

IAS ethos and functions

The ethos of the service is to ensure autistic individuals and carers are able to access the advice, support and interventions needed to enable them to reach their full potential where these are otherwise unavailable.

The IAS will provide the following functions:

- Assessment of adults without a learning disability or with a mild learning disability who do not have a known moderate to severe mental health difficulty
- Information/advice/support following assessment, and consultation in relation to the diagnostic assessment and support of adults with a known moderate to severe mental health difficulty or moderate to severe learning difficulty
- Support for adults with autism without a learning disability or with a mild learning disability without a known moderate to severe mental health difficulty
- Information/advice/support following assessment for children with autism without a learning disability or with a mild learning disability without a known moderate to severe mental health difficulty
- Support for parents, families, partners and carers of individuals with ASD and the professionals they support.
- Advice/training and support for agencies linking with people with ASD.



The service will not provide:

- Emergency / crisis intervention
- Respite care
- Rapid response

For those with more complex needs (where other services such as mental health support is needed), staff from the IAS will work with other professionals to ensure they are able to provide 'autism-friendly' support.

Delivery and Development across North Wales

In North Wales the service will jointly be hosted by Flintshire County Council and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.

The creation of the IAS is supported by an IAS Strategic Group, comprising of representatives from across children and adults' health, social care, education and third sector organisations. This group is supported by an operational group. The IAS Strategic Group reports to the North Wales Leadership Group and to the Regional Partnership Board.



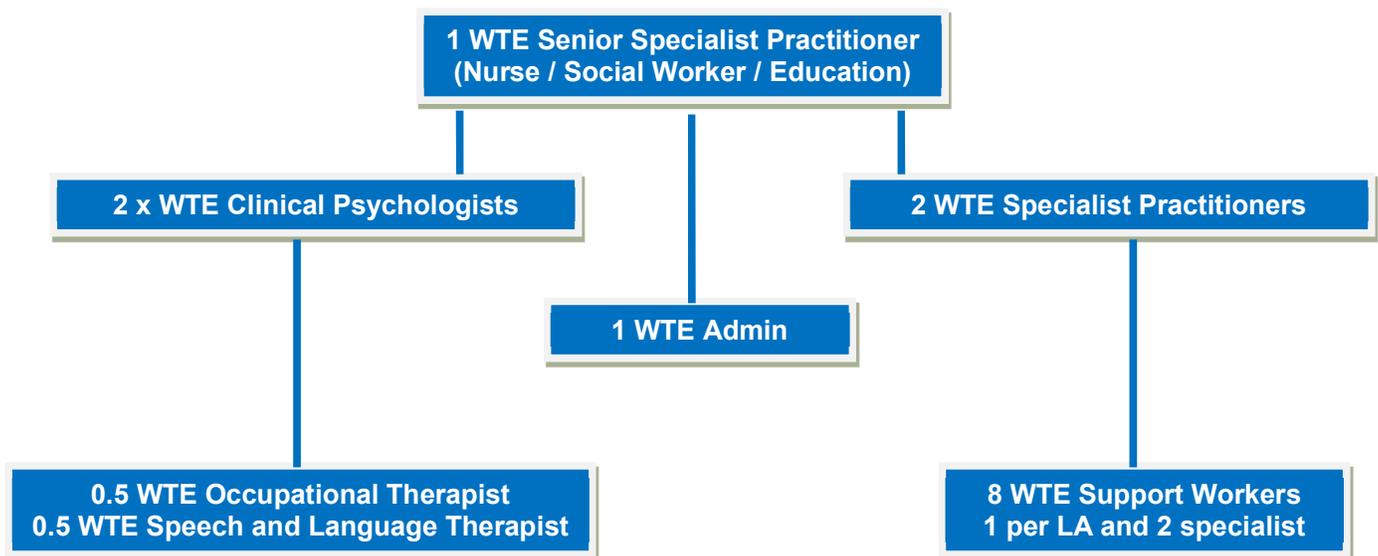
Coming soon- IAS Conference

The aim of the conference will be to introduce the IAS and the varying ASD services across North Wales.

Aimed at anyone with an interest in the development of ASD service provision in North Wales

Service Structure

Proposed service structure for the North Wales IAS



Current Work-streams

Recruitment- Some IAS posts currently advertised here;

www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Jobs-and-careers/Current-Job-Vacancies/Home.aspx

Location- Work is being done to identify a central base for the team. The vision is to have one central base and work stations in each area for IAS staff. Assessments will be held in community settings around North Wales.

Underspend projects- Projects include the scoping of existing services, pathway alignment days, IAS conference, ASD training across the region and yoga based anxiety/ stress management support groups across the region.



Save the date- IAS Pathway Events

First Pathway Event: Friday 26th January

Follow up Pathway Event: Wednesday March 7th

The aim of the events is to enable participants to be clear about how the IAS works alongside other current services, to ensure efficiency and best use of resources.
Aimed at Senior Management from the Health and Social Services Sector

Input into the service

If you feel that you can contribute to the creation of this new and exciting service, we want to hear from.

We want this service to be created based on the needs of the people who will use it.

If you have ASD and would like to become involved. There are a number of ways you can assist e.g. publicity, planning, giving your views, recruitment.

If you are interested in helping us in any way please contact us, contact details below.

Further information

ASDinfoWales: www.ASDinfoWales.co.uk

Integrated Autism Service: www.ASDinfoWales.co.uk/integrated-autism-service

Contact Us

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