



About the Autism Alliance UK

The Autism Alliance UK is a national partnership of not-for-profit organisations that support autistic people and their families.

Our members represent a range of sectors, including adult social care, education, and community support. Together they support thousands of autistic children, young people and adults across the UK.

We work together to share our knowledge, skills and experience in ways which can improve outcomes and reduce inequalities for autistic people.

Our vision is a world in which autistic people can thrive and live their lives in their communities.

Our mission is to develop a network of autism specialist organisations sharing their knowledge, skills and experience, and working together to improve services, policy, and practice.

Providing a strong voice for the sector, the Autism Alliance UK influences national policy, supports the development of practice, and promotes sector strength through sharing professional experience and expertise.

After existing as a voluntary arrangement between not-for-profit organisations, in 2022 the partners created a small, skilled team to take forward the Autism Alliance UK mission. This currently comprises a Director and Executive Assistant, with a current vacancy for the post of Membership Lead.

The Autism Alliance UK is funded through a combination of membership subscription fees and external grants, and its staff are employed by the largest not for profit member of the Alliance, Autism Initiatives. Although Autism Initiatives is based in Merseyside, the existing Autism Alliance staff are remote workers, currently based in Sheffield and Derbyshire.



What we do

The Autism Alliance UK provides a strong voice for the not-for-profit autism sector at a national level, influencing Government policy through commissioning evidence and advocating for solutions. The Alliance also supports strength across the not-for-profit autism sector by bringing organisations together, sharing knowledge and experience, and producing resources.

It operates through a membership model, with currently 25 national and regional autism charities paying subscription fees and collaborating on Alliance activity. These comprise regulated providers of social care, education charities, and organisations providing community support.

Alongside this, the Alliance delivers projects on behalf of, and with, its members. These include the development of a framework for understanding the specialist skills of organisations that support autistic people and their families, and Autism Central, a national service helping parents and carers learn about autism from others with lived experience.

Our fight for 'Real Change'

The Autism Alliance continues to grow as the voice of the specialist autism not for profit sector, supporting strength across the sector at a very challenging time for budgets, influencing Government policy for autistic people and their families, and continuing to build a national supporter base.

In 2023, the Alliance launched a manifesto statement ahead of the 2024 General Election: [Real Change for Autistic People and their Families](#). In late 2023 the Alliance launched a [campaign to close the gap in adult social care](#) for autistic adults in England, and in April 2024 [Doing the Right Thing](#), setting out a range of actions the new Government could take to improve autistic people's lives. These actions were developed with the input of autistic people and parents/carers. Most recently, in December 2024 the Alliance launched [a new report commissioned from the London School of Economics](#), making the economic case for investment in services and supports for autistic people.

Alongside this work on policy and campaigning, the team has been developing the Autism Alliance membership offer as the basis for further growth in membership across the UK.