Asperger's Syndrome

The Facts

Viewed as the higher ability region of the Autistic Spectrum

- They avoid eye contact
- Often display obsessive, repetitive routines
- 10-36 per 10,000 display the condition
- More males than females display Asperger's Syndrome
- May have unusually accurate memory for details
- Sleeping or eating problems
- Trouble understanding what they have read or heard
- Employ a formal manner of speaking
- Inappropriate facial expressions

Useful Websites

www.nas.org.uk
www.aspennj.org

For further information on this issue please contact:

Training & Development Support Officer for Northern Ireland
The Boys' Brigade NI Headquarters
Rathmore House
126 Glenarm Road
LARNE
BT40 1DZ
Tel. 028 2827 2794
Fax. 028 2827 5150
email: nitraining@boys-brigade.org.uk

OR

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Boys' Brigade Disability Network Consultant
25 Whitethorne Brae
Newtownards
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BT23 8EX
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(Compiled by: Colin Millar)

THE BOYS' BRIGADE
>the adventure begins here

Northern Ireland Headquarters
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Rathmore House, 126 Glenarm Road, Larne, Co. Antrim BT40 1DZ
Tel: 028 2827 2794
Email: larne@boys-brigade.org.uk
Web: www.bbni.org.uk

InHouse Publications 028 3835 5060

GENERAL INFORMATION LEAFLET

Basic Facts for Leaders

Asperger's Syndrome

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General Features

Boys with Asperger's Syndrome generally display the following:

- Difficulties with social relationships
- Difficulties with communication
- Difficulties with social imagination and flexible thinking
- May talk on and on taking no notice of listeners' reaction
- Very literal
- Difficult to think abstractly
- Naive and gullible
- Easily upset by change in routine
- Oversensitive to loud sounds, lights, smells
- Physically awkward in sports
- Often unaware of others needs and feelings
- Fixation on one subject or object

Areas of the BB programme which would present difficulty for the boy

Anchor Boy

GROUP ACTIVITIES — Social interaction

GAMES — Carrying out instructions/social interaction

RAPID CHANGE OF ACTIVITIES

Junior Section

PHYSICAL TRAINING

BADGEWORK — Which involves group work

MOVING FROM ONE ACTIVITY TO ANOTHER

Company Section

BADGE WORK — Which involves group work

PHYSICAL TRAINING

DIS a Bility

NORTHERN IRELAND

Useful Strategies

- Talk to parents – find out how their son responds to different situations
- Prepare them for any changes in advance
- Always refer to the boy by his name
- Use visual lists to provide structure for an activity
- Be precise when giving instructions
- Use their ability to rote learn facts to increase self esteem
- Develop a buddy system
- Provide a "time out" comfort zone

Please note these are general strategies

EACH BOY IS UNIQUE

It is therefore important to speak to his parent(s) to gain individual relevant information.