

Good Autism Practice journal

Notes for authors

The aim of the GAP Journal is to publish examples of good practice (or analysis of the issues affecting good practice) in working with, or supporting, individuals on the autism spectrum and their families throughout their lives. This does not imply only 'best' practice, but practice that is judged to be innovative or helpful for others to know about. Examples of papers which could be submitted include research studies, case studies and literature reviews. Reviews of books, DVDs, education or in-service packages, computer programs and TV programmes related to practice will normally be commissioned by the Editors so voluntary reviews should be checked with the Editors before submission.

Papers should not previously have been published nor be under consideration elsewhere.

- a. Articles should be between 1000 and 4000 words (excluding references). Titles and acknowledgements should be brief (no more than 18 words for titles and no more than 50 words for acknowledgements).
- b. Each paper submitted will be refereed by at least one anonymous referee as well as by the Editors.
- c. Papers must be submitted as an electronic attachment to Dr Glenys Jones at g.e.jones@bham.ac.uk
- d. Authors should submit one document containing:
 - I. One title page containing the names, affiliations, full mailing address, telephone, and email addresses for each author. The title page should also contain details of any conflicts of interest (or "The author has declared no conflict of interest") and source of funding (or "This research did not receive any funding"). The authors should also include an acknowledgements section.
 - II. The paper itself with no title pages. Please number the pages (not the title pages). This document will also include the references and any appendices. Papers can include photographs (as long as the author has ensured that these do not infringe copyright laws), diagrams and tables. Please ensure that all images are supplied at

least 300dpi at the size they are to be used. As a rough guide, a file of approximately 1MB is at a resolution of high enough quality for print. Tiff or EPS files are ideal, but PDF or jpeg files are also acceptable. GIF or PNG image files cannot be used.

- e. If requested, a copy of a sample paper can be provided to guide authors on how to set out their paper. Furthermore, the Editors can provide some advice on how to write a journal paper.
- f. Titles and section headings should be clear and brief with a maximum of three orders of heading.
- g. Lengthy quotations (exceeding 40 words) should be displayed and indented in the text. These are not to be encouraged. It is the author's responsibility to check all quotations for infringement of copyright and to obtain formal permission to use the quotation.
- h. Tables and figures should have descriptive titles and be clearly numbered. All footnotes to tables and their source(s) should be typed below the tables. Column headings should clearly and accurately define the data presented. Please ensure, wherever possible, that tables are styled as part of the normal text and not imported as images, or embedded from other applications.
- i. Abbreviations should only be used on rare occasions. Please avoid, if possible, using initials to describe people or groups (Person A; Family A). Abbreviations that are common enough to be in the dictionary (e.g. IQ and USA) are acceptable.
- j. Language and terminology: please avoid using jargon or unnecessarily technical language. Wherever possible, use non-discriminatory language that is not sexist or racist (do not assume that all children are boys, all teachers or support staff are women).
- k. References: The references should be listed alphabetically in full at the end of the paper in the following style:

Happé, F and Frith, U (2006) The weak coherence account: detail-focused cognitive style in autism spectrum disorders *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 36 (1), 5-23.

Boucher, J (2009) *The Autistic Spectrum: Characteristics, causes and practical issues* London: Sage.

Konidaris, J (2005) A sibling's perspective on autism, in Volkmar, F, Paul, R, Klin, A and Cohen, D (Eds) *Handbook of Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders, Volume 2* New Jersey: John Wiley and Sons.

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- n. Please use as little formatting as possible within your article as all formatting (bold, italics, styles etc.) will need to be removed and reset in the GAP style when the document is imported for typesetting.