THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTED BY THE AGENCY

ESPA Agency will support each person to achieve a lifestyle which enables them to enjoy their rights as citizens. These include:

- Privacy
- Confidentiality
- Independence
- Safety and risk management
- Civil rights
- Choice
- Fulfilment
- Diversity and anti-discrimination

THE AGENCY

The Agency office is open Monday to Friday from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. It provides a 24 hour service to people with an autism spectrum disorder in the North East.

CONTACTS

For further information on ESPA Agency or for a copy of the Statement of Purpose or Service User Guide please contact:

Clare Wheatley Domiciliary Agency Manager

E-mail: clare.wheatley@espa.org.uk

Pauline Shannon
Development Manager

E-mail: pauline.shannon@espa.org.uk

Education and Services for People with Autism Limited 2A Hylton Park, Hylton Park Road Sunderland, SR5 3HD Tel: 0191 5165080

Fax No: 0191 5165081

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

ESPA promotes and encourages equality of opportunity for all. Discrimination, harassment or victimisation are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. We aim to ensure that service users, staff and visitors are never subject to unlawful or unfair discrimination on any grounds.



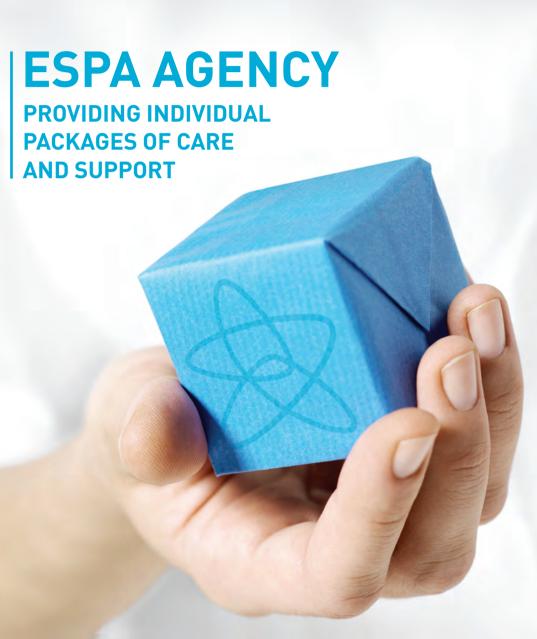


Tel: 0191 5165080 Fax: 0191 5165081 **www.espa.org.uk**

Registered Charity No. 1037868
A Company Limited by Guarantee. Company Number: 2909953

This information can be made available in alternative formats and language if required.





ESPA Agency is committed to providing each individual with high quality personal care and support that is autism specific, person centred, flexible and responsive. We aim to enable people to live as independently as possible within their home and to fulfil their rights as citizens in their community.

Support can be provided:

- Into a person's family home,
- Into a person's own tenancy or a house they share with friends,
- To access a range of community activities.

Each person will receive an individual package of care and support to meet their assessed needs, wishes and aspirations and to enable them to achieve a lifestyle of their choice.

The Agency employs a highly experienced and skilled workforce. All staff have extensive knowledge of the needs of people with an autism spectrum disorder and deliver high quality specialist support.

ESPA also employs a multi-disciplinary team who will work alongside local professionals to provide specialist autism specific advice and support.

OUR PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

Our support services are all based on our core principles and values. Our extensive knowledge and understanding of the needs of individuals with an autism spectrum disorder underpins every aspect of the Agency's work



We consistently aim to provide support and personal care that:-

- Enables people to become as independent as possible within their own home and the community.
- Is delivered in ways which enables each person to achieve positive outcomes in all aspects of their life.
- Empowers individuals to take increasing control over their own lives and supports them to make choices and informed decisions
- Provides flexible care and support which is based upon a thorough and comprehensive multi-disciplinary assessment of the person's needs and preferences, that consistently responds to their changing needs and expectations.
- Supports individuals to learn to live with their disability and develop the necessary skills and strategies to overcome the barriers and difficulties they may experience.
- Is delivered by staff who have the skills, knowledge and competence to deliver quality autism specific support.
- Promotes consultation and responds positively and proactively to the views and comments made by the individual and others who know them well, to ensure that the support remains individualised and person centred.

- Promotes each person's health, well-being and welfare and to work in partnership with other professionals and agencies as required.
- Enables people to lead an active and fulfilling life of their choice.
- Enhances individuals' quality of life, opportunity and experiences both within their homes and the community.
- Supports each person to develop and maintain new skills.
- Provides people with social and behaviour support to bring about positive changes that then enables them to enhance their quality of life and increase their opportunities and experiences.
- Supports individuals to develop and maintain friendships and relationships.

"Each person receives an individual package of care and support"

THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE AGENCY

The Agency supports individuals who have an autism spectrum disorder. Many individuals may also have additional or associated disabilities or difficulties. Staff have extensive knowledge and skills in meeting people's very varied needs e.g.:

- Sensory impairment or sensitivity
- Mental health problems

Epilepsy

Physical disability

Learning disability

Challenging behaviour

The Agency supports individuals who are 18 years old or over.

Support can be provided for specific hours during the week or 24 hours a day. Sleep-in or waking night staff can also be provided.

The hours of support will be agreed between ESPA and the commissioning authority following a detailed and comprehensive multi-disciplinary assessment. This will then be formally agreed as part of the person's Care Plan.

The grade and experience of staff will reflect a person's needs.

The Agency can provide services including:

- a range of personal care tasks, including assistance with bodily functions
- housing support
- support to access and participate in community activities and events. educational courses, work placements or social activities
- supervision
- support to enhance a person's independent living skills
- activities to promote a person's health and well-being
- assistance with budgeting and financial matters

- behaviour self-management
- counselling
- administering medication
- holidays or short breaks

This list is by no means exhaustive and other tasks and duties can be agreed as part of the Care Plan.

