

AUTISM

Have you asked about communication and sensory needs?

Ask directly if they have any conditions which may affect their communication and/or sensory processing i.e. autism?

Have you made adjustments to how you ask for information?

Use clear and direct questions and avoid technical terminology where possible i.e. What is your full address?

Have you made adjustments to aid understanding?

Consider using visual aids such as a flowchart, diagrams or booklets and call an Appropriate Adult of their choice to support them

Have you explained what will happen?

Tell them what will happen during each process, why it will happen and how long it will take where possible

Have you made adjustments to minimise sensory stress?

Ask what adjustments you can make to the custody environment to help minimise sensory stress i.e. Would you like the lights dimmed?

Have you checked if they are anxious or in discomfort?

Ask if they are worried about anything i.e. the toilet, reassure them and make it clear how you can help i.e. Would you like some food?