**Autism Outreach Service (AOS)**

AOS supports children and young people from 4 -16 with a confirmed diagnosis of autism, who attend a Dudley mainstream school.

On receipt of a signed referral form and confirmation of diagnosis we carry out an initial assessment to identify strengths, needs and recommended provision.

Children and young people remain on caseload until the end of year 11 and so ongoing advice, information and support is based on a needs be basis and largely relies on communication from school staff and families.

AOS offer advice and information to school staff, support children and young people with secondary and post 16 transition and carry out one to one targeted work on, for example, post diagnosis, anger management, anxiety management and self-esteem. We also work in a multi-disciplinary manner with families, professionals and other agencies, deliver training such as Making Sense of Autism, attend meetings and provide statutory assessments.

Support is offered to families via our Family Advisor, for example, advice, information, resources and sibling work. Families can also attend a cygnet course.