

AUTISM, EARLY DIAGNOSIS & SUPPORT

Some professionals believe early assessment & diagnosis is crucial for early intervention.
We, and the majority of the autistic community, do not.

Autistic people think differently and experience the world differently.

Autism does not need 'fixing' or 'changing'. We need acceptance and inclusion.



The only goals of early diagnosis should be

identifying meaningful support

supporting the person to be their authentic self

There is no magic window of opportunity

Learning is ongoing and lifelong.

Meaningful support

Inclusion & accommodations
in classrooms, healthcare, employment

Support accessing what **we** deem helpful

Increasing knowledge & community education

It is important to consider the impact of deficit, compliance based therapies on our children.

All therapies and supports should be developed and delivered with majority autistic input, to be meaningful and beneficial.



Bendigo Autistic Advocacy
and Support Service

Support

should always be based on what the person deems
meaningful for them...
and based in respect and acceptance.