

Autism Alert App

Our Autism Alert Application, developed in association with Hampshire Autistic Society & our partner, OneCom, helps people with autism communicate with the police & emergency services teams should they find themselves in stressful or anxious situations.

How does the App work?

The App functions as an Identity Card, which individuals can download from the Apple App Store & Google Playstore and keep on their smartphone. Should the individual find themselves in a situation with a member of the general public, police or emergency services they can present the App in order to communicate their condition.

The App also stores personalised information about the individual & their autism, which is aimed to help police & emergency services personnel calm & support the individual in the best possible way. This personalised information includes emergency contact details of the individual along with different strategies to help the individual in various emotional states. For example, how to help them if they are sad, angry, anxious or over-excited. ("What happens when I get anxious and uncomfortable? "I will try and escape the situation by running away and hiding. I may shout and swear at you.")

The App has been developed specifically so that it is easy for the individual to use. The App has also been trialled via a pilot with people with autism and feedback has been incorporated into the Application. We encourage those people using the Application to keep passing on advice & suggestions so that we can continue to improve it and ensure that it meets the needs & requirements of the individuals using it.



How does personalised information get on to the App?

Upon registering for the App, the individual will need to fill out a registration form. This form will ask the individual to enter information such as emergency contact details and how to best deal with them in various situations.

Upon downloading the App and entering their unique & secure username/password – the App will contain all of the personalised information mentioned above.

Benefits of the App (taken from people with autism)

- An additional 'safety blanket' for them
- A more private way of informing others about their autism
- More control over who they tell about their autism
- The App gives them more independence
- Help people deal with the person with autism in a way that best suits the individual & their needs

Below are some questions that a member of the Hampshire Autistic Society, Jack, answered about the app:

How did you feel when you first learnt that Hampshire Autistic Society was developing the App?

"I felt that it was needed in moving forward with current times. More and more people are being diagnosed, old and young, and this helps to raise awareness of the condition on one of the most popular forms of technology instead of the old fashioned paper."

What does the App mean to you?

"It means that I haven't got to carry paperwork and cards which hold all my information /contact telephone numbers around with me. Discretion is something that is important to me and I like to choose who and when someone should know about my condition."

Which feature of the App do you like the most?

"The fact that they don't need to ask me the same questions over and over again as certain questions are already held on the app with my answers."

