
Autism Positive Strategies for Adoption by Ecclesias

Overall

- Establish an ecclesial wide committee or task-force who can be referenced, make suggestions and provide expertise and advice.
- Ecclesias could invest in some sensory toys, building kits etc. so families don't have to bring so much every week.
- Continued opportunity for information sessions for the community via a Zoom session at a time that people can access, like a Sunday afternoon, or week day night.

Sunday School

- Training for all Sunday School Supervisors, and anyone proposing to teach ASD/ADHD kids in Sunday School (SS) – A strategy reference sheet and consultation/training with members who have experience with ADHD.
- Individual learning plan for each child for Sunday School, one page summary of triggers, learning needs, meltdown response etc this could be managed by SS Superintendents with appropriate teachers in mind.
- Attention to SS learning environments – adequate resources, an environment that does not trigger children.

Youth Groups & Camps

- Discussion and consultation with Autism committee on the appropriateness of activities/camps for neurodiverse members of different age groups.
- Schools are required to produce a risk analysis of all activities, this should be undertaken for our ecclesial children and young peoples activities also. Transportation, inclusiveness, appropriateness of activity, possible triggers.
- A mentor program for youth groups/excursions/camps. If there is a neurodiverse participant, they should have the option of being buddied and included. Our neurodiverse young people need more scaffolding to feel secure going to those things.
- CYC should do a yearly mentoring/information how to include and support neurodivergent attendees, ie a session on how to help and include neurodivergent teens. This should be supported by adults.

Combined Ecclesial Activities

- Similar initiatives to Melbourne Conference at other events – Combined Week-End etc – a supervised quiet room option.
 - Having a dedicated place to sit that offers a quieter option, without the anxiety of having
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to negotiate an appropriate place, rather than having to try and get there early to ensure we can sit in the same place.

- A dedicated area for older kids who need some space, not being put in the cry room with the toddlers and babies (like at a combined weekend).

Pastoral Care

- Being contacted when you miss things, and to see if you are adequately accommodated at an event.
- Making any meal is helpful.

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