

OUR ORGANISATION

The Transforming Autism Project is a new charity focusing on early intervention for young autistic children. Our goal is to truly transform lives through the home-based family services available to families with young autistic children.

We also challenge conventional perceptions of autism and offer our own radical and empowering perspective. This can be seen in our [TED talk](#), which has now been viewed by well over 200,000 people and received great acclaim from the autistic community.

What is distinctive about our approach is that it focuses on facilitating a strong trusting relationship between child and their parents/primary caregivers, as primary means of reducing anxiety and enhancing the child's sense of security to enable them to realise their full potential.

We are a strongly values-driven organisation, and are committed to manifesting our values in how we relate to each other, in what we are trying to achieve and in how we do it. Our values come under 3 core headings:

Unconditional Respect	Courage	Purpose
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kindness• Trust-based Collaboration• Responsivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pioneering Big Thinking• Ambition• Perspectives, Not Positions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Positive Approach• Ownership• Continuous Learning & Improvement

To find out more about our values, mission and goals please visit <https://transformingautism.org/purpose/> to read more and to watch a video by our founder explaining them.

Roles

We are looking to recruit Child Psychotherapists and Paediatric Occupational Therapists who are aligned with the charity's values and its perspective on autism and is motivated to engage with a team of volunteers beyond the contractual arrangement.

We are a start-up charity, launching the programme as part of our family-services as the first direct face-to-face offering. We are starting on a small scale and have completed the pilot for the program and are now rolling out the program to more families. The implementation of First Steps is aimed at young autistic children – up to the age of 4 years- and their parents/primary caregivers. As we grow, we will be looking to expand this.

About the Support Programme

The aim of the First Steps programme is to reinforce and enhance trusting relationships between the autistic child and the caregiver, building on the strengths and potential of the child and the capacities and capabilities of parents/primary caregivers.

The Support Programme is based on the underlying principles of the SARICCI© (Sensory and Affective Reciprocity in Child and Caregiver Interactions) framework, as informed by the latest scientific evidence about:

- Brain development and the impact of early experiences on its development
- the crucial role of the reciprocity between sensory and affective early experiences in shaping the interactions between parents/primary caregivers and their young autistic child
- the importance of playful intentional and reciprocal interactions between parents/primary caregivers and their autistic child habitually embedded in everyday situations
- the impact of parents/primary caregiver stresses and life challenges on the reciprocal interaction with their autistic child
- the importance of support networks and services available to parents/primary caregivers.