



How libraries can help –

Autism

Kent Libraries, Registration and Archives can help and support anyone on the autism spectrum in the following ways:

- Our libraries welcome all customers.
- We try to make our libraries autism friendly where possible, balancing the needs of all our customers.
- Customers on the autism spectrum are entitled to an exempt card which has added benefits, such as: no late charges for books, a longer loan period (6 weeks instead of the standard 3 weeks) and free black and white printing and photocopying, up to 20 pages per day.

What's in the library

- We have books for all ages, abilities and interests. These are free if you return or renew them by the due date.
- Staff can show you round the library or direct you to areas of interest if it is your first visit. If you would like this, please contact the library in advance so we can be sure someone will be available to help you.
- Some libraries have quieter times – ask staff when these are if it would help your visit to the library.
- For those who like them, we have multi-sensory books and storybags in many of our children's libraries. There are multi-sensory Bag Books too for all ages.
- We have information books about the autism spectrum. We can also signpost families and carers to support groups.

Accessing the library service 24 hours a day

- You can find many online resources on our website. This includes eMagazines and eNewspapers, as well as eBooks and eAudio – all free!
- You can check our library catalogue and manage your library account (eg to renew books) online at any time of the day or night.

- We also have an online enquiry service, available 24/7. If you are stuck with a question or need some information (*it can be about anything*), you can phone or chat online. Our Ask A Kent Librarian team will help you find what you are looking for.

For more information contact your local library, www.kent.gov.uk/libs or call 03000 41 31 31.

kent.gov.uk/libs

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