



National Autism Strategy

Help shape the change.

## National Autism Strategy 2025-2031 – Older Autistic People Snapshot

Many older Autistic adults were not diagnosed as children and may have experienced a lack of access to support, discrimination and social isolation. The National Autism Strategy acknowledges these additional barriers and aims to improve life outcomes for all Autistic people.








### Vision Statement

The National Autism Strategy's vision is for a safe and inclusive society where all Autistic people are supported and empowered to thrive in all aspects of life, in line with international human rights.

### Goal

The goal of the National Autism Strategy is to improve the quality of life for all Autistic people in a way that is meaningful to them.

### Guiding Principles

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|  In Partnership –<br>Nothing About Us, Without Us |  Acceptance and Inclusivity                                 |
|  Accessible Based on Universal Design             |  Safety and Rights  |
|  Self-determination and Autonomy                  |  Neurodiversity –<br>Affirming, Individualised and Holistic |
|  Aligned and Accountable Outcomes                 |  |

### Help and Support

Autism Connect is a free, national helpline providing independent and expert autism information that you can trust over phone, email and webchat. Call 1300 308 699 to speak with an Autism Connect Advisor or visit [amaze.org.au/autismconnect/](https://amaze.org.au/autismconnect/)

## Key Outcomes



### Social Inclusion:

- The rights of Autistic people of all ages are being upheld.
- Reduced harm experienced by Autistic people of all ages.
- Increased autism awareness and acceptance in the general community.
- Increased inclusion of older Autistic people who may face social isolation within the community.
- Improved access to responsive supports, services and information.

### Economic Inclusion:

- Improved education opportunities and outcomes for Autistic people, and greater autism awareness and responsiveness within the education sector.
- Greater autism awareness and responsiveness of employers, workplaces and in employment services of older Autistic people not diagnosed as children.

### Diagnosis, Services and Supports:

- Improved awareness and access to respectful assessment and diagnosis, including early diagnosis.
- Improved information and support to navigate the assessment and the diagnosis process.
- Increased access to timely, equitable and neurodiversity-affirming services and supports.
- Understanding that communication difficulties and sensory sensitivities may increase with age.

## Enabling Actions



### Governance, Research, and Evidence, Evaluation, and Reporting:

#### Governance:

Strategy and actions are guided with input from Autistic people, families, carers, professionals, government representatives and researchers.

#### Research-Driven Policy:

Build on existing evidence to inform policies inclusive of Autistic people and their communities.

#### Monitoring and Reporting:

Monitor progress of Strategy implementation and publicly report on the impact of actions under the Strategy.

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Outcomes and actions to improve the health and mental health of Autistic people are being developed through the **Autism Health Roadmap** which is being led by the Department of Health and Aged Care.

