

## AUTUMN TERM

# Autism and Girls

- Diagnosed at a later age than boys.
- Less likely to be diagnosed than boys (same behaviours).



- Friendships - may lack best friend/fixate on one person/on the edge of things socially
- Maturity - may play with older/younger
- Intense interests - similar to most girls but more intense
- Perfectionist/may have issues with homework
- Misunderstanding social norms - rude to teachers, correcting adults, plays more with boys
- Communication - poor at chit chat, takes things literally (may also have very good expressive language)
- Different at home - anxiety but 'fine' in school
- Poor attendance - stress of masking takes its toll
- Obsessive organisation
- Lack sense of personal identity, not sure how to describe themselves, over apologetic
- May lack certainty about gender
- May find great pleasure in certain sensory experiences
- May come across as opinionated, strong sense of justice
- Struggles to realise what others may be thinking
- Copies others - analytical rather than intuitive
- May also have dyslexia, dyspraxia, hypermobility, ADHD, ADD, epilepsy, anorexia...

If you have a certain topic you would like tips on, email [rebecca.duffus@cognus.org.uk](mailto:rebecca.duffus@cognus.org.uk)