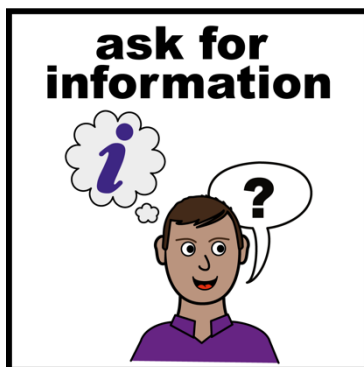
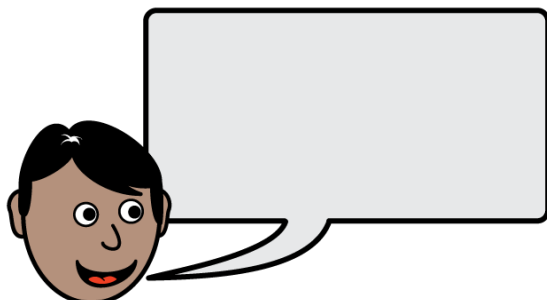


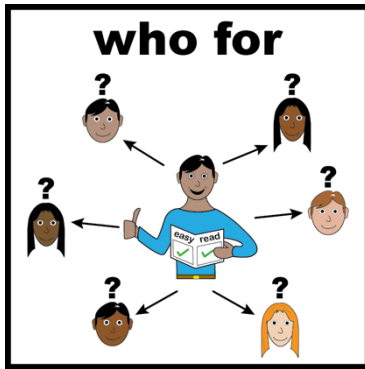
Cheshire and Merseyside Children and Young People Neurodiversity Pathway Engagement



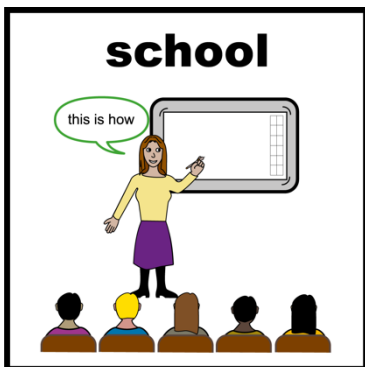
Charities and community groups listened to children, young people and families across Cheshire and Merseyside



267 children and young people and 191 families and carers took part



59% people had been told whether they are neurodivergent, 27% are waiting to hear, 9% hadn't been assessed and 5% are unknown



34% are in primary education, 39% are in secondary education or college, 11% are in a specialist school or college, 6% are in other education or employment, 4% are in none of these and 6% are unknown

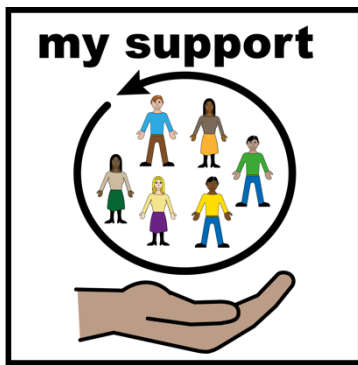


The project made sure children, young people and families had a safe space to speak, could share ideas in a way that was best for them and that their ideas would be heard and used

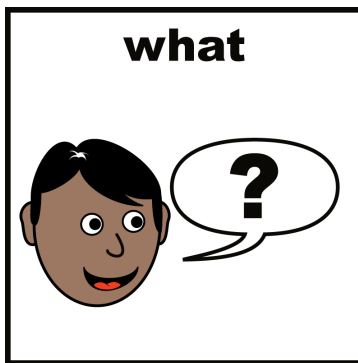
waiting list

waiting list		
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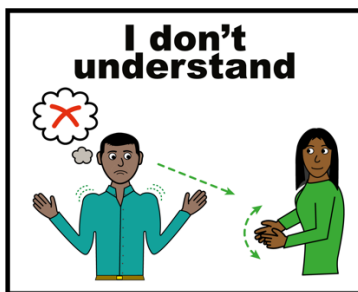
One of the most difficult things for people is the waiting times as the average wait for a diagnosis is 18 to 24 months



People shared there wasn't a lot of support following diagnosis



Neurodivergent people said they are 'labelled' and this can affect their lives. Words used by professionals can also be hard to understand



People said others don't understand neurodiversity, what it is and what can be done in the home, school and community to make things easier



People said most of the support available isn't the same, but they thanked teachers, health professionals and community organisations



Parents said they know best how neurodiversity affects their child



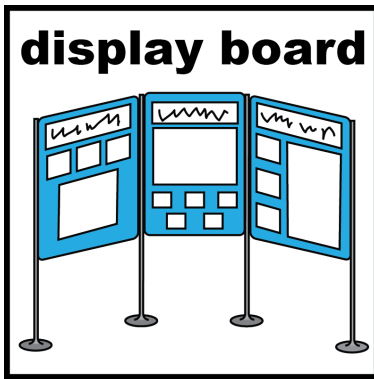
People said there needed to be diagnosis and support as early as possible, with the same support in schools, health and other services



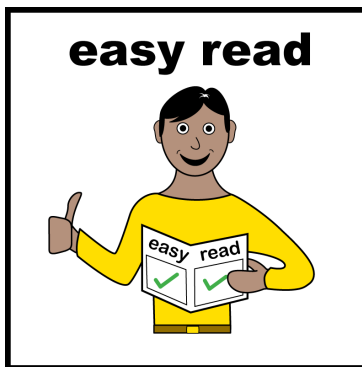
The report also found people wanted one person they could go to for any advice or support, plus a single place to visit



People felt good support always comes with a clear plan



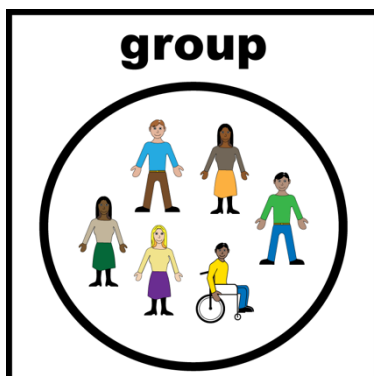
People wanted to see more displays in community spaces so everyone can learn about neurodiversity



People also wanted to see more information in an easy read format



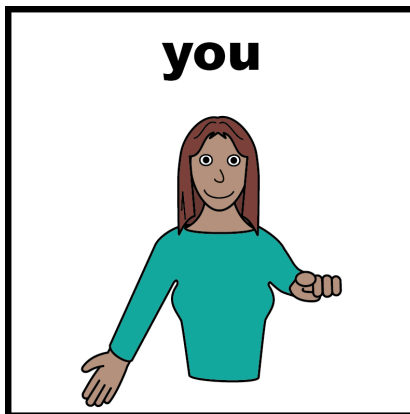
People wanted to find information in different ways, such as on apps, and through websites



People wanted to see more opportunities for smaller group activities, such as peer groups



The report said we need to change buildings and services so people feel welcome and happier about going to them



Another point was what people think about neurodiversity and stopping people feeling labelled



A [full version of this report](#) is also available online