May appear to be in their own world

- May avoid eye contact
- May fail to react to their name
- May appear to be in their own world
Need help with communication
- Echolalia (repeating words and sentences)
- New words/idiosyncratic speech
- Hand-flapping, spinning or rocking

Difficulties “reading”/interpreting social signals or situations
- May need help understanding what is appropriate in different situations
- Difficulties understanding body language, facial expressions and tone of voice
Repetitive behaviours

• May repeat the same action over and over again, e.g. lining up objects or watching the same video

• May have difficulties keeping to a topic and/or changing topic

• May experience difficulties starting, maintaining or finishing a conversation
**Behaviours, interests and activities**

- Prefer structure and routines
  - May dislike surprises and react strongly to changes, whether large or small
  - May need support to try something new

- Repetitive movements and unusual speech
  - Echolalia (repeating words and sentences)
  - New words/idiosyncratic speech
  - Hand-flapping, spinning or rocking

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Under- or oversensitivity

- May have unusual reactions to what they see, hear, smell, touch or taste
- May have unusual reactions to pain

Behaviours, interests and activities

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thinking or talking about it all the time

- May have/show an unusually high level of interest in a topic
- May have an interest that appears unusual (e.g. blue sticks)
- May have an intense interest in a topic (e.g. trains)

Restricted field of interest
• Common accompanying difficulties

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Difficulties in regulating activity
- Hyperactivity
- Inactivity

Difficulties with emotional regulation
Sleep problems
- May wake up multiple times every night
- May need less sleep

Problems with food
- May react to consistency or colour of food
- May react to consistency or colour of food