

TRANSCRIPT: An introduction to a Intensive Support Centre (ISC)

Gavin Lyons

The role of the Intensive Support Centre is to support children who, for whatever reason, have not been able to have their needs met in other special school provisions. All our students, traditionally, have been diagnosed with autistic spectrum condition, have severe learning difficulties and socially inappropriate behaviour.

Our main role, then, is to look at how we can reduce the socially inappropriate behaviour and increase socially appropriate behaviour so they can go back into the more specialist school settings, rather than staying with us in the Intensive Support Centre.

In terms of having an autistic spectrum condition, students have the traditional triad of impairments, so they have their impaired social understanding, impaired communication skills and they're highly rigid in terms of their thinking and their behaviour. A large number of people with autistic spectrum conditions will also have sensory difficulties. They may be over-sensitive or under-sensitive to any of the traditional senses, but also in terms of their knowledge of where their body is in space and their balance, and that's something we take into account as well.

© Crown Copyright, 2012