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To whom it may concern

I would like to bring it to your attention how the SEN education system is failing children with High functioning Autism. There is no provision at all for children and young people who do not have a learning difficulty but struggle socially . Children and young people are expected to either go to Mainstream with support or a learning support unit . Neither options provided are suitable . Provision needs to be made available to these children who don't fit into mainstream or learning support. With trained staff who know how to support these children.

As a Parent of SEN children I have personal experiences of how mainstream was not the right place for my children. But there was not an alternative provision. Their experience of the education system was traumatic and resulted in Suicidal ideation at primary and post primary age. This is something no family should have to go through due to sending our children to school where they should be safe .

The lack of adequate provision results in Stress , Anxiety and low self esteem having a lasting effect into adulthood. As a parents we have to deal with the guilt if sending our children to an environment that is meant to be a safe place and it is far from safe.

I have worked within the education system for over 15 yrs working with SEN children and it breaks my heart when I see children bring failed daily and families having to fight for an education for their children.

My advice would be to provide schools or units that are for children and young people with ASD Aspergers whose needs are not being met .

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone