

# CREATING AUTISTIC INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENTS

These guidelines are designed to support the creation of inclusive environments at events like workshops, conferences and conventions.

## 1 physical environment

Structuring the physical environment appropriately can make people feel comfortable and lead to increased engagement and participation. Consideration needs to be given to all aspects of the environment, such as:



Decor



Lighting



Odours



Seating



Sound



Temperature



Room use and set up



## 2 materials

Providing appropriate materials that account for people's differing needs is an important part of creating inclusive environments. This includes:



Booklets



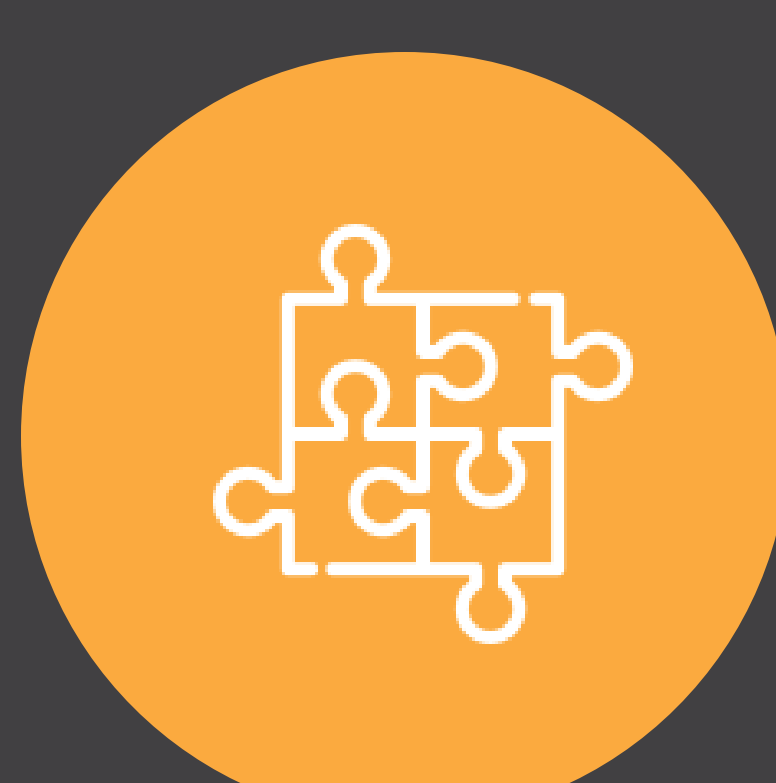
Handouts



Notebooks



Pens



Sensory tools



## 3 processes & practices

To enhance inclusion and reduce potential anxiety, there are a number of processes and practices that are helpful. These should be considered early in the planning phase to enable event management to be responsive to participants' needs. Inclusive Processes and Practices can be categorised as:



Before the Event



During the Event



After the Event

## 4 protocols

It is important to remember that people learn in different ways. Transmitting information in a lecture style does not suit everyone. Consider using hands-on activities, discussion panels, question and answer sessions, role-plays and group work. These protocols relate to:



Communication



Presentations



Visual materials



Group work & discussions



Introductions & ice breakers