

## Sensory Audit

### What is a Sensory Audit?

A [sensory audit](#) is an environmental audit which can be used to assess factors which may impact a child's behaviour. It can be used to create an environment which enables the inclusion of a child with sensory needs, by making simple adjustments.

Consider:

- Visual impact e.g. lighting, wall displays, layout, and organisation of resources...
- Sound e.g. acoustics, background noise, use of music...
- Smells e.g. paint, glue, perfumes, cooking smells...
- Touch and feel e.g. clothing, seating...

Refer to individual children's sensory profiles when making adjustments to the environment.

**\*See also Useful Tips 'Sensory Processing', 'Sensory Profile', 'Creating a Sensory Area' and 'Sensory Play'.**

### Make Your Setting Sensory Friendly



#### national autism standards Sensory Audit for Schools and Classrooms

Devoted by [Ism Atfield](#), [Amy Fowler](#) and [Val Jones](#)

This sensory audit is to help staff to assess and create an environment that enables the participation of pupils with autism. It does not cover all aspects, but gives ideas on the ways in which a setting might be altered if pupils experience sensory processing difficulties and find it hard or very uncomfortable to tolerate certain sensations or situations.

##### Visual

Good Practice and Evidence to look for	Current Situation	Possible action (if needed)
<p>Classroom illumination is suitable for pupils with autism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fluorescent lights are regularly checked and changed. Fluorescent lights can be very blinding.</li> <li>The effects of light coming into the room through blinds and creating distracting patterns are minimised.</li> <li>Light reflecting on objects such as metal or shiny surfaces in the classroom is minimised.</li> </ul> <p>The classroom is neither too hot nor too cold so that pupils can make sense of the environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The impact of wall displays is considered. Busy and cluttered wall displays can be distracting.</li> <li>Designated areas for specific activities to give clarity to the classroom organisation.</li> <li>Pupils have the opportunity to work at a workstation to focus their attention, if necessary.</li> </ul>		

[www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk](http://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk)

**Links to EYFS:** C&L, PD, PSED.

**Links to SEND Code of Practice:** C&I, SEMH, C&L, P&S

### Parent Partnership:

Parents could use a similar audit at home.

