

## **Imagining Autism at The Atkinson**

Imagining Autism is a collaboration between Drama and Psychology at The University of Kent. The project explores how drama and play based practices can engage autistic children, with positive changes in communication, social interaction and empathy.

From 6 - 16 March 2017 Imagining Autism will be in residence at The Atkinson and working with over 100 pupils from local schools. The team will also be delivering a series of events for local professionals and families so that their work and findings can be shared, discussed and applied throughout the North West.

## **Imagining Autism for Professionals**

These free events are for professionals who work with people with autism, including teachers, childcare professionals, drama and arts professionals and healthcare professionals. Professor Nicola Shaugnessy and Dr Melissa Trimingham will present their work and discuss how their findings can be applied in a variety of professions.

**Wed 8 March, 6.30pm - 8.30pm - The Atkinson**

**Tue 14 March, 5pm - 7pm - Litherland Sports Park, Litherland**

## **Imagining Autism for Families**

These free and informal events are for parents and carers of children with autism. As parents of autistic children themselves, Professor Nicola Shaugnessy and Dr Melissa Trimingham will share and discuss how their findings can be applied at home as well as inviting families to share and discuss their own experiences.

**Mon 13 March, 5pm - 7pm - The Atkinson**

**Thu 16 March, 1.30pm - 2.45pm - Rowan High School, Litherland**