



# STUDENT EMERGENCY AND BEHAVIOR RESPONSE SCHOOL & HOME SAFETY PLAN



Safety Plans are very important to assist with an incident or to prevent catastrophic events. People with autism often do not have the ability to make appropriate judgments and understand the severity of situations. When families, school staff, community organizations, law enforcement and emergency services communicate and work together, they can increase the safety of those with autism.

Families have many competing priorities; however, developing a safety plan when there is someone with autism in the family is a MUST in being proactive for safety. This document will assist with preparing the family, care providers, staff at school and local organizations, law enforcement and emergency services to respond in ways that will result in the best outcome.

Every school and organization that serves individuals with autism or other special needs should have an emergency plan. This plan needs to be reviewed and updated on an annual basis with family/care providers, administration, teachers, paraprofessionals, transportation staff, and all other team members. This is a template for schools/organizations and can be modified to meet all safety needs. It is recommended that these forms be referred to in the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) if the individual with autism is in school. Please use the attached pages to prepare your team for the daily and the unexpected situations. There are three documents to assist with having a comprehensive safety plan and they are outlined below.

## STUDENT EMERGENCY AND BEHAVIOR RESPONSE SAFETY PLAN FORMS

### 1. Autism Profile and Emergency Contact Form

- a. Complete this form once a year, possibly at the beginning of each school year, and give a copy to schools, care providers, local law enforcement, fire department and local organizations visited regularly.
- b. Remember to attach a current picture of the person with autism before copying.

### 2. Emergency Situation and Annual Drills Form

- a. Complete this form once a year with school, care provider and/or organizations
- b. Post in office, lounge or key area where staff will see it regularly and review with all staff.
- c. Emergency Situations, Annual Drills, Person Missing, Field Trips, and Transportation for Medical Treatment are all included in it. Add other key items that are appropriate for the individual with autism.

### 3. Common Behaviors and Responses Form

- a. Complete this form once a year and update as new situations come up so everyone working with the individual with autism respond the same way.
- b. It is beneficial to give a copy to people who care or work with the individual – care givers, speech therapists, family members, bus drivers, etc.

If you have questions regarding these forms or need assistance, please contact Sgt. Scott Schuelke, Autism Safety Specialist at Autism Alliance of Michigan at [scott.schuelke@aaomi.org](mailto:scott.schuelke@aaomi.org).





# Autism Profile and Emergency Contact Form



Picture

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: Male or Female	Birthdate or Age:	Non-Verbal: Yes or No	Height/Weight: /
Address, City, Zip code			
Parent / Guardian Name		Telephone #s – home / work / cell	
Parent / Guardian Name		Telephone #s - home / work / cell	
School / Employer / Other		Staff Contact	
Address, City, Zip code		Telephone #	
Communication Methods – Verbal Sign Language Visuals Software		Describe Identifying Marks/Scars	
Medical Conditions: (Autism, Seizures, ADHD-list all)			
Medications		Allergies:	
Primary Care Physician		Telephone #	
Address, City, Zip code			
Health Insurance Carriers or Medicaid		Policy/Group/Contract #s	
Important Information to Share with Responders: (Key phrases or items that may help in situation; cannot be left alone)			
Behaviors that may be exhibited: (runner; wander, eat non-edible items, head butts)			
Popular Destinations: (Library, swimming pool, restaurant, store):			
Emergency Contact: Name, Telephone #, Relationship:			
Emergency Contact: Name, Telephone #, Relationship:			
Emergency Contact: Name, Telephone #, Relationship:			
GPS/Tracking Device Information:			
Other:			





# Emergency Situations and Annual Drills

## SAMPLES

Schools are required to practice emergency situations throughout the year. Additional thought may need to go into how to successfully complete the drills to prepare for a real emergency. It is recommended to include the students with autism and special needs in these drills so staff will be able to handle emergency situations efficiently and safely if they do occur during the school day.

### **Activity: Emergency Drills And Situations.**

Develop one for each: Fire, Tornado, Bomb Threat, Act of Violence (gunman).

#### **Planned Response: Sample for Fire.**

1. Develop a social story on the fire drill, including what will happen and what steps the student, peers and staff will take during it, and where the students should go during the fire (or drill).
2. Go through the fire drill just as if it is real. This will assist in tweaking the plan to be more meaningful.
3. Assign a teacher/staff to be with student at all times.
4. Consider having an item available to keep the student occupied and calm.
5. Keep a phone or radio with you at all times.
6. Place emergency contact form in reach to contact family ASAP or have it in your phone.
7. Confirm student emergency contact form is sent to all county and local emergency responding departments (police/fire) that may respond in an emergency.
8. Confirm with local responders that they have and can use reverse 911 to assist in emergencies.

### **Activity: Missing – Last Seen Inside the Building**

#### **Planned Response: Sample for Last Seen Inside the Building.**

1. As soon as a staff person realizes a student is missing, staff calls the office and says “Code ? – Inside” Letter for Code may refer to students first name. Code A for Aaron.
2. Office staff does a public announcement (PA) immediately – Code A Inside
3. Staff go to their assigned rooms – Paraprofessional may go to the library then computer lab. Secretary may step into hallway to look for the student.
4. All staff look in their rooms, down hallways, and assigned restrooms or common areas.
5. If student is not found within 5 minutes, call 911 and let dispatch know the student’s name, he/she has autism, emergency contact form and picture are on file and this is an emergency.
6. Secretary is responsible for pulling emergency contact form and calling family.
7. Office staff contacts superintendent’s office.

### **Activity: Missing – Last Seen Outside the Building**

#### **Planned Response: Sample for Last Seen Outside the Building.**

1. As soon as a staff person realizes a student is missing, use cell phone/radio/text or run inside and call the office and says “Code ? – Outside” Letter for Code may refer to students first name. Code A for Aaron.
2. Office staff does a public announcement (PA) immediately – Code A Outside
3. Text all staff – so all inside and outside get the message or have some other mechanism to alert staff who are outside including staff who monitor recess.
4. Staff should go to their assigned rooms – Paraprofessional may go to the library then computer lab. Secretary may step in hallway to look for the student.
5. All staff look in their rooms, down hallway. Ms. ? is responsible for checking restroom A. Ms. ? is responsible for restroom B.
6. Named staff should be listed with outside responsibilities to search outside grounds and nearby attractions.
7. If student is not found within 5 minutes, call 911 and let dispatch know the student’s name, he/she has autism, emergency contact form and picture are on file and this is an emergency.
8. Secretary is responsible for pulling emergency contact form and calling family.
9. Office staff contacts superintendent’s office.

**Activity: Field Trips****Planned Response: Sample for Field Trips**

1. Notify field trip facility the class will include a student with autism and special needs.
2. Discuss trip, potential challenges and special needs with student's family and school team.
3. Develop a social story for student and use at school and home.
4. Send a note/email to volunteers before the trip on students' special needs, potential situations and how to respond to them. Do not verbalize this in front of students. Include short definition and characteristics of autism in the communication.
5. Prepare all students and ask for peer volunteers to be friends during the trip.
6. Dress student in bright color for easy identification with name tag.
7. Take communication devices – iPad, pictures, etc.
8. Take items to educate student during the day when student will not be interested.
9. Develop and share safety plan with facility staff, school staff, and volunteers.

**Activity: Injury & Transportation to Hospital/Medical Facility.****Planned Response: Sample for Injury & Transportation to Hospital/Medical Facility.**

1. Evaluate injury immediately with principal or designee and determine if student needs emergency responders during the ride to the local hospital/medical facility.
2. Pull Emergency Contact Form and call parents ASAP.
3. Analyze the state of the student and if he/she would be calmer in staff vehicle if parents cannot arrive within minutes or if emergency responder is necessary.
4. Any doubt, call 911. Notify dispatcher injured student has autism and explain any key items for responder. (non-verbal, allergies, etc.) Give copy of Emergency Contact Form to responders if they did not bring it.
5. Take communication devices – iPad, pictures, etc.
6. Assign staff person who knows and can comfort student to ride and stay with student until a family member arrives to the scene/hospital/medical facility
7. Notify hospital/medical facility staff of student condition, allergies, key information to assist with treatment.



## Emergency Situations and Annual Drills

### *Individual's Name & Year*

Schools are required to practice emergencies situations throughout the year. Additional thought may need to go into how to successfully complete the drills to prepare for a real emergency. It is recommended to include the students with autism and special needs in these drills so staff will be able to handle emergency situations efficiently and safely if they do occur during the school day.

#### Emergency Situations and Drills

##### Fire Planned Response:

##### Tornado Planned Response:

##### Bomb Threat Planned Response:

##### Act of Violence (gunman, etc.) Planned Response:

#### Missing Person Situations

##### Missing – Last Seen Inside the Building Planned Response

**Missing – Last Seen Outside the Building Planned Response**

**Field Trips**

**Instructions for Field Trips:**

**Injury & Transportation to Hospital/Medical Facility**

**Instructions for injury and transportation to hospital / medical facility:**





## Common Behaviors and Responses

### *Individual's Name & Year*

Individuals with autism and special needs often have non-typical behaviors and it is important that everyone who is with the student responds in the same way. List out behaviors and responses you would like everyone to use when those behaviors occur and pictures that should be applied.

Behavior	Responses for Redirection	Appropriate Pictures / Cards
Flipping eye lids		
Head butting		
Laying on floor		
Not working/staying on task		
Picking nose		
Picking of lip		
Pinching		
Running out of class		
Scratching		
Screeching		
Sleeping		
Talking at inappropriate times		