## **Diversity in Social Intelligence**

## Spring 2020 Update

We hope that you're all keeping safe and well at the moment, amidst all the changes that are going on.

We've been busy working away on the <u>Diversity in Social Intelligence project</u> and related studies, and have a few updates to share with you. Here's a summary of what we've been up to, and where you can learn more about our research.

Our study that looks at how autistic and non-autistic people share information has been published in Autism. We used a 'diffusion chain' method, kind of like the game Telephone, to look at how information is shared between groups of autistic people, groups of non-autistic people, and mixed groups of autistic and non-autistic people. We found that groups of autistic people shared information just as well as groups of non-autistic people. The paper is free to access, and you can read it by clicking here. You can watch a video about our methods and results by clicking here.





Our interview study about the social experiences of autistic adults interacting with autistic and neurotypical people was published in Autism. We found that autistic people can feel more comfortable with other autistic people, and better understood, and feel less pressure to interact in a certain way. The paper is free to access, and you can read it by clicking here. Sonny and Catherine also made a video summary of this research, which you can watch by clicking here.

We're in the process of writing some more articles and will be in touch when they're out!

We were visited by film-makers Stories of Impact who made a video about our work understanding diverse types of communication. We were excited to find out the video has been nominated for a ShareCare Award. You can watch this video here. There's also a short version here, and you can access transcripts of the videos here





This summer, we had planned to present some of our research at the International Society for Autism Research Conference in Seattle and the Autistica Discover Conference in Nottingham. Sadly these events have been cancelled, but we will share our presentations on our <u>project website</u> in the coming months

We're currently doing research into autism and peer support, with a particular focus on post-diagnosis, and another project exploring opportunities for peer support in mainstream secondary schools. We hope that in the future, we'll be able to research whether this kind of support can improve the mental health and wellbeing of autistic people.



Thank you for your interest and enthusiasm for our research & for being on our mailing list!

You can find updates on our website www.dart.ed.ac.uk/research/nd-iq



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