WORKING WITH STUDENTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

"ASD is part of who a student is; not something they choose."

ASD is a developmental disability that can affect how a person communicates / socially interacts with others.

1 in 50 people in the US are affected.

Students with ASD are more likely to be bullied and 6x more likely to interact with law enforcement.

STUDENTS MIGHT:
- Mis-read social and other non-verbal cues
- Struggle to accept change
- Ignore verbal commands
- Display obsessive compulsive behaviors
- Misunderstand social boundaries
- Avoid eye contact
- Struggle to respond to questions
- React negatively to crowds, sirens, other noises

To DEESCALATE situations involving students with ASD:
- Be patient
- Avoid quick movements and loud noises
- Never touch unless necessary
- Use simple statements
- Give them space and time to process instructions
- Be reassuring
- Be alert to signs and sources of increased frustration

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