

Special Issue

Autism Spectrum Disorder in School-Aged Children: Screening, Assessment, and Diagnosis

Message from the Guest Editors

During the school-age years, children and youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) encounter unique challenges as they navigate increasingly demanding academic, social, and adaptive environments. Timely identification, comprehensive assessment, and accurate clinical diagnosis are therefore critical to optimizing developmental and educational outcomes. However, significant practice gaps persist across educational, clinical, and community settings.

This Special Issue aims to bring together current scientific research and expert perspectives to advance the understanding of ASD during this pivotal developmental period.

Importantly, this issue also emphasizes the need to extend systematic screening and assessment to preteens and adolescents, groups who may have gone undetected in early childhood screening programs or whose needs evolve significantly during the transition to middle and high school.

Research areas of interest may include, but are not limited to, the following: screening and identification, tool development and cultural adaptation, assessment, intervention and support, and equity and access.

Guest Editors

Dr. Clara J Fernández-Álvarez
Prof. Dr. Simona De Stasio
Prof. Dr. Carmen Berenguer

Deadline for manuscript submissions

5 June 2026



Children

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.1
CiteScore 3.8
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/263555

Children
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
children@mdpi.com

[mdpi.com/journal/
children](https://mdpi.com/journal/children)





Children

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.1
CiteScore 3.8
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/
children](https://mdpi.com/journal/children)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

You are invited to contribute a research article or comprehensive review for consideration and publication in *Children* (ISSN 2227-9067). *Children* is an open access journal—research articles, reviews, and other content are published online immediately after acceptance. The scientific community and the general public have unlimited free access to the content as soon as it is published. The journal focuses on sharing clinical, epidemiological, and translational science relevant to children's health. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Paul R. Carney

Departments of Child Health and Neurology, University of Missouri, 400 Keene Street, Columbia, MO 65211, USA

Author Benefits

Open Access

— free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, Embase, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Pediatrics) / CiteScore - Q2 (Pediatrics, Perinatology and Child Health)