

# PhD Study As An Autistic Student

Its triumphs and Its challenges



# Outline

- A bit about me
- A bit about my Diagnosis
- The pros of PhD study with Autism
- The cons of PhD study with Autism
- What I've learned to help me cope



# A Bit About Me

- I am a third year PhD Student
- I am researching early children's television in TFTS
- I have completed a PGCE and hope to teach university
- In my spare time I write fiction and am a member of the Aber Theatre Society



# A Bit About My Diagnosis

- I was diagnosed with ASD at 26
- I was diagnosed with Level 2 Autism
- I would consider myself to have low support needs
- I receive support in the form of an Autism Mentor and Study Skills Mentoring



# Pros of PhD Study with Autism

- I get to research a special interest
- I have a lot of control of my daily routines
- It is a long period of study



# Cons of PhD Study with Autism

- Struggling with secondary work
- Balancing energy levels and other interests
- Creating social bonds



# How Does He Do It?

- Blocks of work rather than time based schedules
- Support in the Uni
- Joining societies
- Acknowledging my disability



# Conclusions

- PhD Study with Autism is a land of contrasts
- The knowledge of my diagnosis has helped
- Taking advantage of support offered has been invaluable
- I am still learning but that is okay



Thanks for Listening.

Are There Any Questions?

