How to vote in person (page 1)

You can find easy read information about how to vote online:
www.myvotemyvoice.org.uk/voting/how-to-vote-in-an-election

Before an election, the council will send you a polling card. This card will tell you when voting day is and where you can go to vote in person.

You can vote in person at a place called a polling station on the day of the election.

Polling is another word for voting.

Polling stations are community buildings, such as a local hall, school, or church.

Your polling station will be close to where you live.

You can usually vote from early in the morning until 10pm at night on voting day.

You can ask someone you trust to help you at the polling station. They must be over 18.

This person can help you to fill in your ballot paper, but you must tell the polling station staff.

You can fill out a Voting Passport to give to polling station staff. This will help them to understand what support you need to vote.
www.myvotemyvoice.org.uk/resource/voting-passport

Arriving at the polling station.

When you get to the polling station there will be signs to show you that you are at the polling station. There might be a queue.

There might be somebody stood outside who might ask you for your name and/or your address. They are not polling station staff and you don't have to give them any information if you don't want to.

How to vote in person (page 2)

Inside the polling station

When you get to the polling station you will be asked for your voting card. They might call this your polling card. It's okay if you don't have it, you don't need it.

The polling station staff will ask you to confirm your address. This is to make sure you are registered to vote.

They will also ask you to show your ID. This is new, so if you have voted before you won't have had to do it.

When they have confirmed who you are the polling station staff will give you a ballot paper.

This is what you will use to cast your vote.

Casting your vote

When you have your ballot paper you will go to one of the polling booths. These are tall tables with privacy screens around them. The polling booth is a private area where you can vote.

You can take time to think about who to vote for. Try to do this quietly.

There are instructions to follow on the ballot paper. Using the pencil provided, put a cross or tick next to the person you want to vote for.

You might need to vote for more than one person. This will be on the instructions on the ballot paper. Don't put any other marks on the ballot paper.

You can ask a member of the polling station staff for help. If you need a new ballot paper, ask the polling station staff.

How to vote in person (page 3)

When you have completed the ballot paper, fold it in half.

Walk over to the big box and post it in. This is the ballot box.The ballot box is a locked box where all votes are kept safe.

Don’t talk about who you voted for in the polling station, wait until you are away from it.

How to get help at the polling station

You can ask the polling station staff for help or to show you what to do.

You don’t have to tell them you have a learning disability and/or autism but it might help.

Your learning disability and/or autism does not affect your legal right to vote.

Voting passport

A voting passport is an A4 sheet of paper to hand to polling staff so they easily can understand what support you need to vote.

You can nominate someone you trust to help you to vote. The person you nominate must be over 18, and you must tell us whether they are eligible to vote in the UK.

Find out more and download the voting passport:
www.myvotemyvoice.org.uk/resource/voting-passport