

Comparison of Ethical Frameworks: ASAN Principles and the DDP

The following table synthesises the ethical guidance provided by the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN) with the strategic framework of the Dynamic Development Plan (DDP). This alignment ensures that professional interventions are not only practically effective but also ethically sound and neuro-affirming.

ASAN Principle	DDP Strategic Application	Professional Outcome
Social Agency: The right to choose interaction styles and levels of engagement.	Strengths-based Profiling: Recognising natural social preferences as valid personal assets.	Shift from social compliance to personal autonomy and well-being.
Plain Language: The necessity of clear, literal, and accessible communication.	Communication Scaffolding: Removing the "hidden curriculum" by providing explicit instructions.	Reduced anxiety and increased accessibility to the curriculum or workplace.
Ethical Support: Focus on the individual's self-defined goals rather than "normalcy".	Environmental Adaptation: Adjusting the setting to reduce barriers, as advocated by Lane Anthony.	Environments that accommodate the person, rather than forcing the person to mask.
Mutual Respect: Valuing neurodivergent social languages as equal to neurotypical ones.	Stakeholder Education: Training peers and staff to bridge the Double Empathy gap.	A culture of mutual translation and inclusive communal identity.

Integration within the Neurocoach Level Programme

In an academic context, the integration of ASAN guidance into Module 3 ensures that the Neurocoach remains focused on the human rights of the student or client. Lane Anthony (2024) argues that when we prioritise ethical support over behavioural interventions, we see a significant reduction in school-based trauma and burnout. By using the DDP to document these ethical adaptations, SENCos and school leaders can create a transparent, accountable, and neuro-affirming pathway for pupil support.

The primary goal of understanding neurodivergent social interaction patterns is to foster a world where "different" is no longer synonymous with "deficient". Through the combined application of the Double Empathy theory, Lane Anthony's sensory research, and the ASAN ethical framework, practitioners are equipped to support the flourishing of neurodivergent socialities in all their diverse forms.