

Autism Awareness Day at Cheltenham Town Football Club

Alderman Knight School, Cheltenham Town FC and The National Autistic Society have worked in unison to provide an opportunity for pupils at Alderman Knight School to experience attending a professional football match.

Cheltenham Town Ambassador and Alderman Knight pupil, Noah Millington, has worked with both parties to report back on Cheltenham Town's success this season. Noah has assisted all parties organise an Autism Awareness day held on Saturday 1st April at the fixture Cheltenham Town versus Burton Albion to raise the profile on Autism Awareness Week (Monday 27 March to Sunday 2 April 2023.)

As part of Noah's role, two Cheltenham players visited AKS where Noah interviewed them in front of his peers. The players were striker, Christian Norton and goalkeeper, Shaun Macdonald. More on the visit can be seen on the Cheltenham Town website with the link provide here > [\(Click Here\)](#).



Photo provided from Cheltenham Town FC

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Cheltenham Town FC also promoted a video made by Alderman Knight School pupil, Neve to help raise the awareness of autism. The club posted Neve's video on their social media pages before the game and can be seen [here](#). We are very proud of Neve for discussing the difficulties she faces so maturely! Well done Neve.



Ambassador Noah and Cheltenham Town Fan and pupil Thomas, also met Nicky Price from BBC radio Gloucestershire and promoted the event on her Saturday morning show. They both demonstrated maturity and have both been a credit to themselves and the school.

A snippet of the interview can be found [here](#)



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The game itself was attended by 17 AKS families in total where 25 of these tickets were free. Cheltenham Town kindly offered a discount for the remaining tickets too!



Noah and Thomas were able to sit in the dugout and were very lucky to walk out on the pitch at the start of the match with the players. Both wore ear defenders to raise awareness of autism in front of over 4000 people! A video can be seen [here](#).

Noah also checked that the pupils of AKS were okay and offered to give them ear defenders if they were required. He also sat with Annie during the first half and discussed his experiences through his ambassador role this season.



Annie Dax from the National Autistic Society also attended the day and kindly provided funds to provide all 25 people attending from AKS with a T shirt to wear. The t-shirt had the Cheltenham Town and NAS logo on.





A huge thankyou to Annie and the NAS Gloucestershire branch for providing these!

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The game finished 0-0 and even though there were no goals to cheer, the families of AKS had a fantastic day.

A huge thank you to all who made this possible and hopefully there will be more opportunities like this in the future!



TIMELINE	LINEUPS	STATS	NEWS
	TEAM STATS		
22	Shots	6	
5	Shots on target	3	
63%	Possession	37%	
479	Passes	283	
69%	Pass accuracy	55%	
8	Fouls	7	
3	Yellow cards	0	
0	Red cards	0	
2	Offsides	1	
7	Corners	3	