



2011 CHAPTER 27

Supplementary

Interpretation

4.—(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

“autism” means autism, Asperger’s syndrome, Rett’s syndrome, Heller’s syndrome or any pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified;

“autism strategy” means the strategy required to be published under section 2;

“carer”, in relation to a person with autism, means an individual who provides a substantial amount of care on a regular basis for that person;

“the Department” means the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety;

“HSC trust” refers to a body established under Article 10 of the [Health and Personal Social Services \(Northern Ireland\) Order 1991 \(NI 1\)](#);

“the Minister” means the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety;

“Northern Ireland department” means the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, the Department of Education, the Department for Employment and Learning, the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, the Department of the Environment, the Department of Finance and Personnel, the Department of Justice, the Department for Regional Development, the Department for Social Development and the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister.

Commencement

5. This Act comes into operation after the end of the period of three months beginning with the day on which it is passed.

Short title

6. This Act may be cited as the Autism Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.