Visual guide to planning your journey for people with Autism/ASD

Travelling through the Airport – Terminal 2

I go to Dublin Airport when I am going on an airplane to (name location) for my holiday (e.g. visit a relation). WHO will be travelling with me when I go to the Airport? There are lots of buildings at Dublin Airport. It is a very busy Airport.
We can travel to the Airport by (car, taxi or bus). We park our car in the car park with lots of other cars. I might need to wait at the bus stop for a bus to take me to the Airport.

Car Park Bus
Indoor Car Park

Outdoor Car Park
When we get to the Airport, we put our bags on a luggage trolley. We put our bags on a trolley because they are very heavy.
The Airport is a noisy place with lots of people. Sometimes at the Airport I might hear sudden and loud noises like babies crying or a person talking on the loud speaker. People might push against me. People are in a rush and they might bump against me. I might be afraid but it will be okay. I can use my (insert something that will help the individual remain calm) to help me feel better. I will stay close to my mum/dad (or insert person travelling with the individual) and listen to what they tell me to do. If I am feeling afraid, I will tell my mum/dad.
Customer Service Agents

There are people at the Airport who are there to help me and my family. These people (Customer Service Agents) wear bright pink jackets. They are able to answer lots of questions about travelling through the Airport. I should ask the people wearing the bright pink jackets if I need help with where I should be going or help to get through security.
Self Service Kiosks for Check-In

We might use a self service desk to check in and to get our boarding card. Mum/Dad will type our names into the kiosk and our boarding cards are printed. Boarding cards are very important. I need a boarding card to get through the security section and to get onto the airplane.

Then we will go to the Check-in desks to give the person our bags.
We go to the check in desk to check in. I give my bag (suitcase/backpack) to the person at the check-in desk. The person will put it on a conveyor belt. My suitcase is too big to fit beside me on the airplane. It will be put into the store room on the airplane with all the other bags. I will get it back again when the airplane lands in (name place).

Security Screening

Next I will go to the security screening area. There will be a lot of people lining up to get through the security checks. This can take a long time. I will have to wait for my turn.

At security I will stand in line until it is my turn to go through the scanner. I will watch my Mum/Dad to see what they are doing. I will listen to my Mum/Dad. I will be asked to put my coat, sometimes my shoes, and my bag into a grey box on the Conveyor belt.

I will stand and wait until the security person in a white shirt (Passenger Services Team Member) asks me to walk through the scanner. I must walk slowly through the scanner. I have to walk through by myself. I will collect my bag or shoes when I walk through the big scanner to the other side. Sometimes the scanner might beep and the security person might ask me to stop. This is because they want to check me. I will stand still when they ask me to put my hands out. The security person will check my body by gently doing a hand search. This will happen to lots of people when they go through the security area. This might happen to my Mum/Dad. I will do what the security person asks me to do. If I am feeling afraid, I will tell my Mum/Dad.
When I am finished at security, I will go to the boarding gates for my flight on the airplane. There are a lot of boarding gates at Dublin Airport. I might have to walk for a long time. I will walk close to Mum/Dad to make sure I don’t get lost. There are lots of shops and restaurants along the way – sometimes I can have something to eat.
At the boarding gate, I will have to wait to get onto the airplane. I can ask Mum/Dad for something to do while I wait. There are seats to sit on while we wait. Sometimes at the boarding gate, I can look at the airplanes through the big glass windows.

When it is time to get onto the airplane, the person in uniform will call everyone.

I will line up and wait until it is my turn to give the person my boarding card to get on the airplane. I might feel happy and excited. Sometimes, I get onto the airplane by walking
along a tunnel. Sometimes, I will have to get a bus across to the airplane and climb up the steps to get onto the airplane.

The cabin crew will say ‘Hi’ to me when I get onto the airplane. I will say ‘Hi’ back to them. They will tell me what seat to sit on. I must go to my seat and sit down. I will put on my seatbelt. I will turn off my (electric equipment). I will keep it turned off until the cabin crew tell me to turn it back on after my flight.