

Autism Awareness

one day course

Whether you already know something about these groups, or are a newcomer to the work, the course aims to really put you in touch with the issues faced by Autistic people, and to offer ways of working with them that will both improve your knowledge and increase your confidence.

Who is this course for?

This programme is aimed at anyone who works with, or needs to know more about people on the Autism Spectrum, including Asperger Syndrome.

What the course covers

- How people on the Autism Spectrum perceive the world differently, and how this throws up issues for the way we work with them
- The key issues involved in diagnosing Autism and Asperger syndrome - the “Triad of Impairments”
- How Autism affects people’s lives, the lives of their families and those around them
- The characteristics and behaviour of Autistic people
- The Autistic world – sensory overload and the environment
- What does a diagnosis of Autism mean? And what is the difference between Autism and Asperger syndrome?
- What are the barriers in society that people on the Autism Spectrum face?
- Communication – hints and tips
- Understanding best practice approaches, and strategies for working with people on the Autism Spectrum
- The Government’s legislation and strategy on Autism (the Autism Act 2009)
- Reviewing our own working practices to feel more confident in working with people on the Autism Spectrum
- Who to contact for further information/support

Timetable (may be subject to amendment)

- Session 1** Introductions etc
Quick quiz – paired exercise
Defining Autism Spectrum Disorder
The Triad of Impairments – the key to diagnosis
- Session 2** What causes autism?
The difference between Autism and Asperger Syndrome? – and high functioning Autism?
Barriers in society
Models of Disability – social and medical models
Group exercise
What can we do as individuals to overcome these barriers? –
Understanding the Autistic world
- Session 3** Working with people with Autism
Video - “A is for Autism”
Strategies for working with people on the Autistic Spectrum - Best practice
Legislation – an overview of the Government’s new Autism Bill and the National Adult Autism Strategy
How Legislation will affect the place that you work in? –Changing the way we work