



TRAINING PROSPECTUS

AUTISM TRAINING AND CONSULTANCY

Autism NI offers vital accredited training to help develop Autism awareness and understanding for families, professionals and a range of agencies.





Autism NI is Northern Ireland's longest serving Autism charity and Autism Training provider. We train over 1860 delegates a year, with nearly 250 individuals choosing to complete a nationally recognised AQA accreditation annually. We pride ourselves on providing training and advice that is evidence based, practical and to the highest standard of accuracy to ensure it is effective in supporting individuals with Autism and their families.



WHY CHOOSE AUTISM NI AS YOUR TRAINING PROVIDER?

- We are the main Autism Charity in Northern Ireland, with a dedicated Training Department, experienced in providing a range of training courses to both parents and professionals.
- We are the only accredited training agency in NI. Our training offers delegates an opportunity to complete an AQA qualification which ensures a high standard of learning, understanding and self-development.
- Our courses are CPD certified, giving you quality assurance and demonstrating our structured approach to learning and development. Professionals can earn CPD points by completing our courses, showing their commitment to enhancing their personal skills and effectiveness within their job role.
- All training courses are grounded in External evidence-based research.
- Our trainers have a number of Autism specific training qualifications and are trained in a number of interventions related to Autism, e.g. TEACCH, PECS.
- Our trainers have a wealth of experience and expertise in many areas relating to Autism, for example, early intervention, youth work, mentoring, education and counselling.
- We have a number of sessional trainers who can provide specialist training in the area of expertise that they work in, for example, Sensory Processing, Speech and language/ communication issues, Positive Behaviour.
- We provide the only Equality-Rights based training in Northern Ireland. Organisations can achieve our Autism Impact Award by committing to staff training and ensuring reasonable adjustments are made in their organisation in line with the Autism Act 2011.





TRAINING ACCREDITATION

The Assessment Qualification Alliance (AQA) accredits our introductory training courses. The AQA Unit Award Scheme dates back to 1984 and is offered by the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance, the largest awarding body in England and Wales.

AQA is fully approved by QCA – Qualifications and Curriculum Authority sponsored by the Department of Education and Skills as a scheme which recognises achievement of delegates. The AQA Unit Award Scheme provides the opportunity to give delegates formal recognition of their success in short courses (units) within the context of recording achievement. A Unit Award statement is issued after each unit is completed (i.e. each one day course) and a letter of credit is issued listing all courses that have been completed.

The Unit Award scheme provides external accreditation of achievement and provides a route to support lifelong learning.

Autism NI offers a full range of training from the basic fundamentals of ASD to a variety of specialist training.

The overarching aim is to improve the levels of knowledge, understanding and skills of those working with individuals with ASD and their families/carers.

GRADED TRAINING

Training is generally delivered at the following levels:

- Level 1
- Level 2







AUTISM IMPACT AWARDS

Impact Awards have been developed to help organisations create a more 'Autism friendly environment' for their customers. Through attaining an Impact Award you can more confidently open up your business to the 30,000 individuals and families living with Autism in Northern Ireland.



The Impact Award will equip your staff to better understand any customers who have Autism and also how to adapt your organisation's environment to support this.

The Impact Award Process:

- Staff will be able to complete a full day course in Fundamentals
 of Autism, with two nominated Autism Champions to complete
 an accredited AQA assessment. This course will explore the
 differences and difficulties related to Autism and focus on a range
 of practical strategies that your staff will be able to implement in
 their roles.
- As part of the course, a bespoke and individualised plan will be discussed and agreed to help individuals with Autism and their families access and use your service. Follow up contact will be agreed to support you in making the adjustments relevant for your organisation and to achieve the award.
- Once you have completed the award, you will be able to use this
 achievement to advertise and promote the excellent standard of
 service that your staff can provide for families with Autism.

We tailor all our courses to suit the organisation's specific needs. Autism NI has numerous training courses that cover a wide range of topics relating to Autism. To find out more information about the courses we can offer, please contact our Training Department on 02890 401729 or email christine@autismni.org.



"Gaining more strategies to support ASD clients having difficulties within workplace."

"Found tutors approachable/helpful/ able to engage the groups, good rapport, inclusive."

"Very easy to understand when I came with limited knowledge - practical examples were brilliant!"

TRAINING COURSES



Courses with the CPD logo have been certified by the CPD Certification Service as conforming to continued Professional Development Principles.



Courses with the AQA logo have AQA accreditation and qualification available – please enquire with Autism NI for further information when booking the course.





Autism Parenting when Living Apart: Supporting the child with Autism when parents separate Half Day Session

Are you anxious about explaining separation to your child or how to ensure consistency when parenting apart?

Course aimed at: Parents who are separated and wish to explore strategies to use when parenting apart.

Course Objectives:

We will explore how to use Autism strategies to help your child while parenting apart, to minimise the impact of separation on your family. We will explore:

- Explaining separation to a child with Autism
- Promoting a consistent routine and structure when parenting apart
- Helping your child cope with their worries or anxiety about parental separation

Please note: This course is designed for parents who have already completed our Fundamentals of Autism course.

Communication & ASD Level 2 Training Full Day Session



Does your child or an individual you work with struggle with verbal communication? Would you like to find out about strategies to help them communicate better at home or in other environments?

Course aimed at: Parents, Carers, family members and professionals working with Individuals with Autism.

Course Objectives:

Understanding the difficulties individuals with Autism may have in relation to developing communication skills and strategies that promote successful communication. Course includes:

- What is communication?
- The processes of effective communication
- How does communication present in Autism?
- Using structure to assist communication
- Developing communication & specific strategies.





Females with Autism Half Day Session

Do you want to explore the differences in relation to Autism for Females and how to support Females with Autism?

Course aimed at: Parents, carers and family members

Course Objectives:

This course will explore the differences between male and female presentations of Autism, and why females may be underrepresented or missed in the diagnosis of Autism. The course will explore the key characteristics of Autism for many females and a range of strategies for supporting women and girls with Autism.

Please note: This course is designed for parents who have already completed our Fundamentals of Autism course.

Fundamentals of Autism Workshop Level 1 Training Full Day Session



Do you want to know more about what Autism is? What does the diagnosis mean? How can I start to support someone with Autism?



Course aimed at: Parents, Extended family, Support Staff, Teachers and Classroom Assistants

Course Objectives:

Understanding of the main features associated with ASD or Autism and exploring various strategies to support individuals. Course will include:

- Introduction to and main features associated with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- Understanding of the impact of ASD and the difficulties encountered.
- To identify and be aware of various strategies.

Please note: This is our recommended first course for anyone who has not completed in depth Autism training previously.





Growing Up, Health Awareness & ASD Workshop Level 2 Training 2 Day Sessions

Do you want to know more about how to support your child through adolescence and puberty while building their independent skills?

Course aimed at: Parents and Carers with a child (approximately aged 8+)

Course Objectives:

This two day course will help parents to support their young person with ASD during the adolescent years, to help them increase independent life skills needed for adulthood. We will consider how general health awareness and well-being may be impacted by Autism, and identify a range of strategies that may be effective in supporting young people with Autism to have access to information that is user friendly.

We will explore: Family Values and attitudes, Promoting self-esteem, Body Awareness, Personal Hygiene, Relationships and friendships, Sexual Health issues and Personal Safety.

Independent Self Care Skills for your child with ASD Level 2 Training Full Day Session



Does your child struggle with toileting, feeding, dressing or personal hygiene tasks? Would you like to explore strategies to help your child increase their independent skills in these areas?

Course facilitated by Specialist Occupational Therapist (OT)

Course aimed at: Parent/carers with a child (approximately aged 0-7) with Autism

Course Objectives:

This course will explore what is meant by self-care and discuss a range of strategies to promote independence with everyday self-care tasks, for example:

- Sitting and engaging
- Going outside
- Sleeping
- Feeding
- Toileting, washing and showering
- Dressing





An Introduction to Autism and Anxiety Half Day Session

Do you want to explore a range of strategies to help your child with emotions, stress and anxiety?

Course aimed at: Parents, carers and family members

Course Objectives:

This course will explore the key characteristics of Autism that may impact on a person's anxiety and stress levels. The course will explore a range of strategies to help increase emotional understanding, emotional regulation and coping strategies to help an individual with Autism reduce the impact of anxiety.

Please note: This course is designed for parents who have already completed our Fundamentals of Autism course.

An Introduction to Autism and Play Half Day Session

Do you want to understand more about play for your child with Autism and be able to develop your child's skills through play activities?

Course aimed at: Parents, carers and family members

Course Objectives:

This course will explain why play is important to develop skills that are essential throughout life. The course will examine the difficulties some children with Autism may have with play and explore strategies to help expand and develop your child's play and skills.

Please note: This course is designed for parents who have already completed our Fundamentals of Autism course.





The KEYHOLE® Early Intervention Programme in ASD Level 2 Training 2 Day Sessions



Course aimed at: Anyone working with pre-school children with ASD in an Early Years setting i.e. all playgroup, nursery school or classroom and private day care staff.



Course Objectives:

The KEYHOLE Early Intervention Programme is holistic approach for young children to enhance their development from a young age. Topics covered: Play, Communication, Social Interaction, Behaviour and the Early Years role. Content of the course includes:

- Explore how Autism manifests in the pre-school child and what difficulties the child may have in the early year's situation.
- Identify strategies for effectively interacting with children with ASD.
- The basic principles of the management of Autism in the early year's group.
- Explore how to structure activities with children with ASD.
- Develop skills in interacting with pre-school children who have ASD and their parents.

As part of the course, delegates will receive a series of information manuals and a Structured Teaching Starter Kit which includes activities and visuals.

Please note: Five AQA Level 2 Units can be completed as part of this course.

Making Visuals for Your Child Half Day Session

Do you want to find out more about the benefits of using visuals for your child and how to start using them at home?

Course aimed at: Parents, carers and family members

Course Objectives:

This course will explore why we use visuals for individuals with Autism and show you how to make individualised visual structure for your child. We will discuss how you can use visuals to help your child with:

- Routines for the day
- · Instructions for independent self-help skills
- Behaviour Management
- Emotional regulation and anxiety
- Understanding instructions and choice

Delegates will be able to take home some sample visuals to implement at home.

Please note: This course is designed for parents who have already completed our Fundamentals of Autism course.





Sensory Processing & ASD Level 2 Training Full Day Session



Course facilitated by a Specialist Occupational Therapist (OT)

Would you like to find out more about sensory differences for an individual with

Autism and explore sensory ideas to implement at home or in other environments?



Course aimed at: Parents, carers, family members or professionals working with an individual with Autism.

Course Objectives:

This course will explore the range of sensory processing differences relating to Autism, and discuss a range of strategies that can support an individual with sensory processing difficulties.

- Understand sensory processing and ASD.
- Understanding of how sensory processing impacts on your young person's function.
- Give strategies that you can implement daily.
- Start your sensory lifestyle

Social Stories & Comic Strip Conversations Level 2 Training Full Day Session



Course facilitated by specialist Speech & Language Therapist (SLT)

Have you heard of social stories or comic strip conversations but not sure how to use them?



Would you like to find out more information about how to make these and use them with an individual with Autism?

Course aimed at: Parents, carers, family members or professionals working with an individual with Autism.

Course Objectives:

This course will help you understand what social stories and comic strip conversations are, and how you can use them effectively with an individual with Autism. The course includes:

- Understanding the structure of a social story and why they are used
- Understanding the structure of comic strip conversations and why they are used
- Using social stories & comic strip conversation effectively with an individual with ASD





Supporting Young People with Autism through Adolescence Level 2 Professional Training Full Day Session

Course aimed at: Professionals who work with older children and adolescents with Autism, e.g. in residential facilities, school and mentoring programmes.

Course Objectives:

This day course will help professionals to support young people with Autism during the adolescent years, to help them increase independent life skills needed for adulthood. The course will explore a range of challenges that may occur and a range of intervention strategies to improve and promote the wellbeing of young people with Autism. Content of the course includes:

- Body Awareness and Personal Hygiene
- Relationships
- Self Esteem
- Sexual Development
- Personal Safety

Supporting your young child with Autism – strategies to use with a child with Autism & Learning Difficulty Level 2 Training Full Day Session

Course facilitated by Specialist Occupational Therapist (OT) & Speech & Language therapist (SLT)

Course aimed at: Parent/carers with a young child with ASD

Course Objectives:

This course will explore key development in a young child with Autism, and explore strategies or activities to encourage skills development for child with Autism and Learning Difficulty. You will:

- Learn about the key building blocks of development
- Explore communication in children with ASD and learning difficulties
- Learn about the link between play and communication
- Discuss behaviour as a form of communication
- · Learn how to encourage independence with your child





Understanding & Promoting Positive Behaviour Level 2 Training Full Day Session



Course facilitated by a teacher specialising in Behaviour



Would you like to find out more about strategies that could be used to help an individual understand what is expected of them and help them improve their behaviour at home or in other environments?

Course aimed at: Parents, carers, family members and professionals working with an individual with Autism.

Course Objectives:

This course will explore what behaviour is and Autism may impact an individual's behaviour. The course will include:

- Understanding what behaviour is
- Identify, appreciate and understand causes of challenging behaviour for young people with ASD
- To identify several strategies to promote positive behaviour

Understanding Social Skills & ASD Level 2 Training Full Day Session



Do you want to feel more confident in addressing and teaching social skills with a young person with Autism?



Course aimed at: Parents, carers, family members and professionals working with an individual with Autism.

Course Objectives:

This course explores strategies to support a young person with ASD to learn and develop social skills. This course includes:

- Understanding Social difficulties experienced by the young person with ASD
- Understanding Social Skills
- Teaching Social Interactions
- Teaching Social Understanding
- Social Skills training practical strategies





Using Structure with an Individual with Autism Level 2 Training Full Day Session



Do you think your child would benefit from structure but you're not sure where to start?



Do you want to find out more about how to implement visuals and structure when working with someone with Autism?

Course aimed at: Parents, Carers, family members and professionals working with Individuals with Autism.

Course Objectives:

This course explores the main features of Autism, identifies elements of structured teaching that may benefit an individual with Autism and how these can be implemented in home or other environments in a practical way. Elements of Structure explored include:

- Schedules
- Work or Activity systems
- Physically structuring the environment
- Positive Routines





TRAINING DATES

SEPTEMBER 2017 - JUNE 2018





Parent Training

Date/Time	Course Title	Location	Cost
19 th September 2017 10:00am – 3:00pm	Fundamentals of Autism AQA Level 1	Canal Court Hotel Merchants Quay Newry BT35 8HF	£30
26 th & 27 th September 2017 9.30am – 2.30pm	2 day Growing Up, Health Awareness & ASD Level 2	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	To Be Confirmed
7 th October 2017 10:00am – 3:00pm	Sensory Processing & ASD AQA Level 2	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	Funded
16 th November 2017 10:00am – 3:00pm	Communication & ASD	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	Funded
23 rd November 2017 10:00am – 3:00pm	Fundamentals of Autism	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	£30
6 th December 2017 10:00am – 3:00pm	Understanding Social skills & ASD AQA level 2	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	Funded
24 th January 2018 10:00am – 3:00pm	Using Structure with an Individual with Autism AQA level 2	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	£40
31st January & 1st February 2018 9.30am – 2.30pm	2 day Growing Up, Health Awareness & ASD Level 2	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	To Be Confirmed
7 th February 2018 10:00am – 3:00pm	Fundamentals of Autism	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	£30
15 th March 2018 10:00am – 1:00pm	An Introduction to Autism & Anxiety	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	To Be Confirmed
21 st March 2018 10:00am – 3:00pm	Understanding Social skills & ASD AQA level 2	Fermanagh House Enniskillen BT74 7HR	Funded





Date/Time	Course Title	Location	Cost
24 th March 2018 10:00am – 3:00pm	Understanding and Promoting Positive Behaviour AQA Level 2	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	£40
11 th April 2018 10:00am – 1:00pm	Females with Autism	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	To Be Confirmed
18 th April 2018 10:00am – 3:00pm	Social Stories & Comic strip Conversations AQA Level 2	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	£40
3rd May 2018 10:00am – 1:00pm	An Introduction to Autism & Play	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	To Be Confirmed
26 th May 2018 10:00am – 3:00pm	Independent Self-Care skills for your child with ASD AQA Level 2	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	£40
5 th June 2018 10:00am – 1:00pm	Making Visuals for your Child	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	To Be Confirmed
14 th June 2018 10:00am – 3:00pm	Fundamentals of Autism AQA Level 1	Waterfoot Hotel Caw Roundabout Derry~Londonderry BT47 6TB	£30
20 th June 2018 10:00am – 1:00pm	Autism parenting when living apart	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	To Be Confirmed

Assessment Qualification Alliance (AQA) qualification is optional and usually takes place after the workshop. This takes approximately 30 minutes, at an additional cost of £30 per unit.

For further information please contact christine@autismni.org

Please note: Course cost is subject to change if we receive funding for courses to enable us to offer them free of charge to parents.





Professional Training

Date	Course Title	Location	Cost
23 rd October 2017 10:00am – 3:00pm	Supporting Young People with Autism through Adolescence	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	Professionals £95
23rd November 2017 10.00am – 3.00pm	Fundamentals of Autism	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	Professionals £75
24 th January 2018 10:00am – 3:00pm	Using Structure with an Individual with Autism AQA level 2	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	Professionals £95
7 th February 2018 10:00am – 3:00pm	Fundamentals of Autism	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	Professionals £75
26 th February 2018 - 2 nd March 2018 (8.30am - 4.30pm)	TEACCH 5 day training	TBC – contact Christine English for further information (christine.english@autismni.org)	TBC
5 th – 9 th March 2018 (8.30am – 4.30pm)	TEACCH 5 day training	TBC – contact Christine English for further information (christine.english@autismni.org)	TBC
24 th March 2018 10:00am – 3:00pm	Understanding and Promoting Positive Behaviour AQA Level 2	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	Professionals £95
18 th April 2018 10:00am – 3:00pm	Social Stories & Comic strip Conversations AQA Level 2	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	Professionals £95
14 th June 2018 10:00am – 3:00pm	Fundamentals of Autism AQA Level 1	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Belfast BT8 8BH	Professionals £75
17 th & 18 th October 2018 9:30am – 3:00pm	2 day KEYHOLE® Early Intervention Programme in ASD	Donard Knockbracken Healthcare Park Saintfield Road Belfast BT8 8BH	Professionals £185

Assessment Qualification Alliance (AQA) qualification is optional and usually takes place after the workshop. This takes approximately 30 minutes, at an additional cost of £30 per unit.

Our vision is an equal society in Northern Ireland where barriers to those living with Autism are removed and equality of access to rights and opportunities protected and enforced.



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