

Autism SA presents

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

TERM 1, 2018



CREATING INCLUSIVE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS FOR STUDENTS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM

24 JANUARY

This workshop is a hands-on, practical workshop where participants work together to consider elements that contribute to an inclusive environment. The workshop offers an opportunity to share and gain practical ideas to implement in your school.

Topics include:

- Setting up physical environments in a way that supports differences in cognitive processing;
- Using assessment tools such as The Ziggurat Model and the Autism Program Environment Rating Scale (APERS) to formulate considered planning;
- Creating and using effective visual supports across the environment;

- Developing carefully considered sensory environments;
- Developing an awareness of diversity in the school environment;
- Creating inclusive yard environments;
- Effective behaviour support systems; and
- Practical resourcing.

Time: 9.30am-4pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$165;
Non Members: \$175

UNDERSTANDING THE AUTISM SPECTRUM

31 JANUARY

This workshop is a must for anyone who lives or works with an individual on the autism spectrum. Presented by consultants with many years' experience supporting individuals on the spectrum, the program outlines the diagnostic criteria and explores the unique characteristics of autism. Upon completion, participants will better understand the profile of an individual on the spectrum, including their strengths and challenges. Personal insights are provided using readings, videos and group activities.

Time: 9.30am-12.30pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$85;
Non Members: \$90

All participants will receive a certificate with the workshop title and the number of hours, stating that the workshop links to the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers.

General Workshops are designed to give participants general knowledge and understanding of autism. Presenters discuss a range of strategies participants can use to improve their practice when working with individuals on the spectrum. These workshops are suited to participants who have not attended previous Autism SA workshops.

In Focus Workshops are designed for participants who have a good knowledge and understanding about autism and who have previously attended one of our General Workshops. In Focus Workshops address specific areas relating to the autism spectrum, and aim to increase participants' knowledge, confidence and skills in a particular area.

Venue: Autism SA, 262 Marion Road, Netley, South Australia.

Additional Information: Full day workshops are catered. Please contact Autism SA's Training and Consultancy Officer on (08) 8462 0658 or via email at ebennett@autismsa.org.au if you have any dietary requirements.

Please follow the parking signs to the back of the building.

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STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS ON THE SPECTRUM 31 JANUARY

This workshop helps participants to learn how to use a range of social, communication, behavioural and sensory strategies to support individuals on the spectrum. Strategies are practical, relevant and evidence based. Participants will gain hands-on experience in using and implementing strategies that are suitable for use in a range of environments for individuals of any age.

Time: 1pm-4pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$85;
Non Members: \$90

SUPPORTING STUDENTS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM IN PRIMARY SCHOOL 7 FEBRUARY

Are you a mainstream primary school teacher? Do you have a student on the autism spectrum in your class? This is the workshop for you! Designed by teachers, this workshop aims to provide participants with the knowledge, understanding and practical skills to support students on the autism spectrum in the classroom environment.

Topics include:

- Understanding the autism spectrum;
- Setting up effective planning (One Plan, NEP or IEP);
- The typical learner profile of students on the spectrum;
- Enhancing communication;
- Developing social understanding;
- Proactively reducing interfering behaviours; and
- Understanding sensory processing and the impact on a student.

Time: 9.30am-4pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$165;
Non Members: \$175

AUTISM SPECTRUM IN HIGH SCHOOL 8 FEBRUARY

Are you a mainstream high school teacher? Do you have a student on the autism spectrum in your class? This is the workshop for you! Developed by high school teachers, this workshop is designed to give teachers the knowledge, understanding and practical skills to support students on the spectrum at high school.

Topics include:

- Understanding the autism spectrum;
- The typical learner profile of students on the spectrum;
- Curriculum differentiation;
- Enhancing communication;
- Developing social understanding;
- Proactively reducing interfering behaviours; and
- Understanding sensory processing and the impact on a student.

Time: 9.30am-4pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$165;
Non Members: \$175

SUPPORTING CHILDREN ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM IN THE EARLY YEARS (PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE SETTINGS) 14 FEBRUARY

Participants will experience an engaging, hands-on day, filled with relevant and practical strategies to support young children on the autism spectrum in the early years. This new workshop has been developed by a multi-disciplinary team to ensure the most relevant strategies are presented. Participants will gain knowledge and confidence in identifying when intervention strategies are needed and how to successfully use these strategies. Attendees will leave the workshop with a greater knowledge of the spectrum and an enhanced ability to adapt the environment to suit the individual needs of children.

Topics include:

- The autism spectrum and key characteristics in the early years;
- The referral process and diagnosis;
- Support available for preschool and child care aged children and their families;
- Maximising participation and engagement;
- Enhancing communication - how to modify verbal language and use of visual supports;

- Supporting transition;
- Developing social and play skills;
- Adapting the environment to increase engagement and reduce interfering behaviours;
- Motor and sensory difficulties and the impact on skills; and
- Q & A.

Time: 9.30am-4pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$165;
Non Members: \$175

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SUPPORTING THE SENSORY NEEDS OF PEOPLE ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM 16 FEBRUARY

An engaging, practical workshop created and presented by Occupational Therapists (OTs) with extensive experience in working with individuals on the autism spectrum. This workshop is specifically designed for those who work with individuals on the spectrum in educational settings.

Topics include:

- Provide understanding of sensory processing;
- Provide understanding of how OTs assess sensory processing patterns;
- Help participants to identify the signs of sensory processing differences;
- Provide practical strategies to modify the environment and task for individuals with sensory processing differences;

- Provide evidence based, best practice principles for supporting sensory needs in educational settings;
- Describe how to set up break spaces and calming activities; and
- Highlight the link between sensory processing, motor skill development and academic performance.

Time: 9.30am-4pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$165;
Non Members: \$175

SUPPORTING STUDENTS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM FOR SCHOOL SERVICES OFFICERS (SSOs) AND EDUCATION SUPPORT OFFICERS (ESOs) 21 FEBRUARY

Supporting a student on the autism spectrum can be both challenging and very rewarding. This workshop recognises the important role of SSOs and ESOs within the educational sector. The program also allows time for participants to share their ideas and successes, and network with other participants.

Topics include:

- Understanding the autism spectrum;
- The role of support staff;
- Evidence based teaching strategies when working 1:1, in small groups and supporting in the classroom;
- Enhancing communication;
- Increasing social understanding;
- Reducing interfering behaviours;
- Addressing sensory needs; and
- How to look after your own needs on the job!

Time: 9.30am-4pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$165;
Non Members: \$175

HANDWRITING: OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO A LIFELONG SKILL 23 FEBRUARY

This workshop is presented by a senior Occupational Therapist (OT) from Autism SA. Participants will understand the fundamental skills that underpin handwriting and why individuals with autism may be challenged by this task. Attendees will learn to identify a range of handwriting challenges and be provided with engaging, practical strategies that support motivation for handwriting, writing posture, pencil grasp, letter formation, writing fluency and more. Understanding when further assessment of handwriting is needed and how to access this will also be covered.

Time: 9.30am-12.30pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$85;
Non Members: \$90

SUPPORTING STUDENTS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM IN THE OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE (OSHC) SETTING 28 FEBRUARY

This workshop is designed for professionals who work with students on the autism spectrum at OSCH or holiday programs. This full day, interactive workshop will increase participants' knowledge, understanding and skills when supporting students on the spectrum. The program presents a terrific opportunity to develop professional skills and networks.

Topics include:

- Understanding the autism spectrum;
- Environmental considerations;
- Enhancing verbal communication;
- Developing social understanding; and
- Reducing interfering behaviours.

Time: 9.30am-4pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$165;
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IMPLEMENTING 'THE INCREDIBLE 5-POINT SCALE' FOR INDIVIDUALS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM

7 MARCH

Autism SA has developed a workshop based on Kari Dunn Buron and Mitzi Curtis' 'The Incredible 5-Point Scale' program. The two special education teachers designed a program 'That "talks in numbers" rather than in socially and emotionally laden words,' (Buron, Curtis, 2003). Autism SA staff have used the program in a range of environments and have found it to be highly effective.

Topics include:

- The philosophy behind the program;
- Looking at the resources;
- Overview of the program, including hands-on activities;

- How to implement the program for individuals, groups, classrooms and across whole sites (including schools);
- How to monitor, tweak and review the program to ensure success.

Time: 9.30am-4pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$165;
Non Members: \$175

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT (PBS) PLANNING FOR INDIVIDUALS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM

14 MARCH

This workshop develops participants' understanding and skills in identifying and managing behaviour through an interactive, hands-on workshop. Attendees will leave the workshop with a plan in hand to take back to their settings.

It is recommended participants also attend 'The Anxiety Curve: what to do when an individual on the spectrum is escalating'.

Topics include:

- Positive behaviour support (PBS) frameworks;
- Functional behaviour assessments;
- Understanding behaviour;
- Identifying the function of a particular behaviour; and
- Planning interventions.

Time: 9.30am-4pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$165;
Non Members: \$175

THE ANXIETY CURVE: WHAT TO DO WHEN AN INDIVIDUAL ON THE SPECTRUM IS ESCALATING

21 MARCH

This workshop acknowledges that many individuals on the autism spectrum have high anxiety levels. Presenters will discuss the importance of identifying observable signs of anxiety at five different levels, and how support staff can respond when an individual is at these different levels. The workshop will also discuss how staff can support/teach an individual to self-identify their anxiety level and use effective strategies to reduce it.

Topics include:

- What to do at each level when an individual's anxiety escalates;
- How to teach an individual to self-regulate;
- Importance of non-aversive behaviour management;
- How to teach an individual strategies to calm; and
- Developing a 5-Point Plan for support staff.

It is recommended participants also attend 'Positive behaviour support planning for individuals on the autism spectrum'.

Time: 9.30am-4pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$165;
Non Members: \$175

USING A AND B CHOICES IN THE SCHOOL SETTING

28 MARCH

In this workshop, participants learn how to use the black and white way of thinking of students on the autism spectrum - using 'The Way to A ©' program. The workshop demonstrates how to teach students what 'A' and 'B' choices are, and how to implement 'A' choices in the classroom, school yard and specialist lessons. This program can be implemented for individual students on the spectrum, as well as for whole class or whole school environments.

Time: 9.30am-12.30pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$85;
Non Members: \$90

INCREASING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT THROUGH CAREFUL SCHEDULING: WORK, REWARDS AND BREAKS

28 MARCH

This workshop defines the clear difference between 'work', 'rewards' and 'breaks', and how important these are in motivating and meeting the needs of students on the spectrum in educational settings. The presenters will clearly identify how to gather the necessary information and how to schedule a range of activities to maximise motivation and participation. By utilising personal schedules, the fine balance between 'work', 'rewards' and 'breaks' can be clearly communicated to increase motivation and independence.

Time: 1pm-4pm

Cost: Associate/Ordinary Members: \$85;
Non Members: \$90

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