

The Big Autism Play Day

8 March 2018, Hartlepool



An introduction to Sensory Learning & learning styles in autism.

Richard Hirstwood & Carol Allen.

We will show you why using a learning styles approach is appropriate to our learners with Autism. We'll share how a positive approach can enable us to identify a learner's strengths and possible barriers to engagement, to ensure continued progress. We will show you how to use this information to personalise an individual's learning pathway.

Performing an Environmental Audit.

Richard Hirstwood.

Environmental influences can have a huge impact on successful learning for a pupil/individual with autism, or those with a multi sensory impairment, who may experience sensory sensitivity, processing and perceptual differences. Richard shares an Environmental Audit, which will tell you how "autism/sensory impairment friendly" your classroom/learning space is – and how you can adapt this. We will also offer practical advice on increasing or decreasing sensory stimulus for learners who need specific cues to help pupils make 'sense' of their environment.

Sensory Issues and Challenging Behaviour.

Clive Smith.

Clive will explore an alternative sensory perspective to the traditional approach to challenging behaviour in those with autism. Does the root of challenging behaviour lie in a faulty sensory processing system? Clive will share how to create positive sensory activities and environments to develop self-regulation.

'Hands on? Hands off?'

Carol Allen.

Hands are crucial in play. They are how we experience the world around us; how we identify, manipulate and use objects and how we create magic, even language! For the learner with Autism hands are a primary focus, they frequently provide calming stimming opportunities, they may be protected and held back from unwanted sensory experiences and yet as a complete contradiction, fully engaged with other sensory experiences - often those that are not viewed by others as acceptable. This practical session will look at hands and hand play. How do we release the hands to engage in the most useful learning opportunities?

Grand Designs! Creating Multi Sensory Environments that Work.

Richard Hirstwood.

It doesn't matter how big the sensory space is – it's how big the sensory is in the space! Most learners with autism need a consistently supportive sensory learning environment at all times. Understanding how to best use key pieces of multi sensory equipment will maximise the impact of this room or space on learning. Outside of the sensory room, how can we engineer the classroom environment to also provide this?



The Big Autism Play Day is coming to Hartlepool!

Thursday 8th March 2018, 9am – 3.45pm, CETL



Fresh from sell out workshops in London and Manchester, we're delighted to have been able to bring The Big Autism Play Day to Hartlepool. This is a chance for those of us in the North East to access nationally acclaimed CPD without having so far to travel!

The team will focus on the sensory needs experienced by so many students on the autistic spectrum. Understanding the sensory needs of an individual can be key to managing anxiety, behaviour and consequently, to maximising learning opportunities for them. The day is deliberately wide ranging, so there will be something for everyone, from those who work in special schools through to those who have students included in their mainstream settings. Accessible and practical ideas will be offered throughout so that you leave not only with renewed impetus and intent, but with things to try out and share with colleagues.

The presenters are very experienced in their field and effortlessly combine theory, evidenced –based practice and creativity in equal measure so that the day is fun, engaging and relevant. Outlines of the sessions are detailed on the accompanying sheet and will move from the greater picture of working with your educational environment to consider how the choices we make as educators can create either support or create barriers for student learning; right down to details such as how creating effective sensory control with our hands can improve quality and quantity of handwriting.

Behaviour will be a key theme running through all aspects of the day. So much behaviour is communication and often alerts us to both conflicts of sensory need and the need to develop self-regulation. Each session will have this as a central focus and the ideas offered and shared will provide delegates with a toolbox to take away and apply to their own practice.

Who will benefit from participating? Teachers (mainstream and special), TAs, 1:1 assistants; SENCOs;

Key outcomes will be:

- An understanding of the sensory elements to successful teaching and learning; this will be particularly applied to students with autism.
- How to conduct an environmental audit in order to improve access and inclusion for students with sensory needs.
- An understanding of the link between autistic challenging behaviour and sensory needs.
- How to create positive sensory activities in order to promote self-regulation for those with challenging behaviour.
- Experience of a range of activities to facilitate effective use of hands, with particular reference to handwriting.
- Quick and fun ideas to enhance all learning using multi-sensory apps, projection and sound

Costs:

- Costs to schools/academies who have purchased the School Improvement 2017/18 £80 per delegate
- Non SLA schools/academies £150 per delegate
- Hartlepool maintained schools will not be charged VAT

Booking Instructions:

Please email CPDCETL@hartlepool.gov.uk quoting course title 'The Big Autism Play Day' & reference 'CACETLBAPD' with the following information:

- Full Name(s) of delegate(s):
- Employee Number:
- School/Academy/Organisation:
- Email Address:
- Telephone Number:
- Any Additional or Special Requirements