



aiming high with communication

5 WEEK

Supporting Verbal Pupils with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Elklan courses are externally quality assured and accredited
by an OfQual regulated national Awarding Organisation

An accredited course for those working with pupils who have social communication needs including Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). It is suitable for staff working in primary and secondary mainstream, special schools and specialist units empowering them to develop the communication skills of pupils who need help to use their language within a social context.

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SUPPORTING VERBAL PUPILS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

This UPDATED evidence based specialist course provides learners with theoretical knowledge and an abundance of practical skills and ideas to support pupils with autism and/or social communication needs. Written as additional module participants must have completed an Elklan core course before attending this training.

Participants receive a six credit award at either level 2 or 3. The course can be taught over 5 two hour weekly sessions or 2 ½ days. The course uses interactive teaching methods, practical activities, videos and group discussion to engage learners.

What does the course teach?

1. WHAT IS COMMUNICATION AND WHERE DOES ASD FIT?

- Identify the significant features of ASD.
- Develop an understanding of pragmatic language skills.
- Learn how to use a checklist to identify pupils with social communication needs.

2. SENSORY INTEGRATION AND ASD

- Understand the range of sensory difficulties individuals with ASD may experience.
- Learn how to identify different sensory patterns and strategies to manage individuals with varying needs.

3. THE IMPORTANCE OF STRUCTURE

- Understand what is meant by visual and physical structure and why it is important.
- Explore ways of adding physical and visual structure to the environment.
- Learn how to use a wide range of visual supports in the learning setting.

4. INTERACTION

- Develop activities to facilitate the learning of vocabulary associated with emotion concepts.
- Learn how to use evidence based interaction strategies and how to modify them for the individual with ASD.
- Understand how a lack of theory of mind affects an individual with ASD.
- Know how to use chat cartoons to promote social interaction. (More able and older children only).

5. BEHAVIOUR IS COMMUNICATION

- Understand that individuals communicate through their behaviour.
- Understand why communication difficulties might lead to unhelpful behaviour.

“This gave me real insight into an area I didn't know much about. I am now much more aware of why the little boy I support behaves as he does and the effect that his autism and communication difficulties have on him at school.”
- Karen P

“This course was worth doing as it helped me to reflect on what I was doing in the classroom. I have already used several of the strategies and it is having an effect on the children. I am now much more aware of how their ASD affects them at school.”
- Wendy T