



Training@TheBridge

SEN course listing

September 2011 – July 2012

Training for those working in **mainstream schools** in the fields of learning difficulties and disabilities and/or autism.



The Bridge School –

Training@TheBridge

The Bridge School is an all-age maintained special school in the London Borough of Islington, catering for children, young people and adults aged between 2-19 with severe learning difficulties, profound and multiple learning difficulties and/or autistic spectrum disorders. The school is one of the major providers

of professional development in the UK with 14 years experience delivering quality training for primary and secondary mainstream and special schools across the country.

The Bridge School were appointed as the first Leadership and Innovation Academy hub school for special schools. They provide professional development for special needs teachers at all stages of their careers, delivered by leading special school leaders and practitioners. This ranges from one or two-day courses, certificates and postgraduate qualifications in SEN to bespoke support tailored to the needs of your school.

Bespoke support

All our courses can also be offered as an INSET opportunity to suit your individual needs, for example:

- **Half-day, one-day or two-day INSETs at your school or in partnership with schools in your area. Whether delegate numbers are 5 or 500 we can create the programme to suit all your needs.**
- **Workshop days with trainers delivering a variety of one or two hour rotating workshops on key areas of your choice.**
- **Expert keynote speakers talking on a variety of current topics relating to SEN.**

The most popular areas for INSET currently are:

- Introduction to Autistic Spectrum Disorders in the mainstream classroom.
- Autistic Spectrum Disorders and challenging behaviour in the mainstream classroom.
- Introduction to Aspergers Syndrome.
- Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

For further information, please contact Jessica Devonald, London Project Officer on jessica.devonald@ssatrust.org.uk or 0207 802 0722. Please specify your preferred area of training, the number of colleagues to be involved and an indication of potential dates and time frames for training.

Course index and contents page

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Autumn term 2011

Title: Introduction to Autistic Spectrum Disorders in the mainstream school

Dates: 4 – 5 October 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutors: Bozena Marczyk, Rosie Whur and Ros Blackburn

Specifically aimed at inclusion managers, SENCOs, teachers and teaching assistants working in a mainstream secondary setting, this two-day course offers an intensive introduction to autism. It concentrates on giving essential knowledge of autistic spectrum disorders and offers a solid grounding for all working with those on the spectrum.

Course content:

- An in-depth overview of Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASDs).
- Logically Illogical - a fascinating morning with Ros Blackburn, herself diagnosed as autistic, who freely discusses her own views on autism and what it's like to be autistic.
- Transitioning between classrooms and teachers.
- Peer relations, teasing and bullying.
- Strategies and approaches that work.
- Differentiation and how autism might affect learning.
- An introduction to the problems of sensory impairments and what we might do to counteract their negative effects.
- An introduction to 'Social Stories'.
- A brief guide to positive behaviour approaches.
- Materials and resources.

Cost: £270 per delegate



Title: An introduction to signing**Date:** 7 November 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30**Tutors:** Clare Ward and Peter Imray

A one-day course for all teachers and TAs wanting to introduce signing into their classroom, covering practicing stage one signs, your top 50 signs to use every day and great ideas on how best to teach signing to your pupils.

Course content:

- The advantages and disadvantages of signing.
- How it works as a part of total communication.
- Prerequisite skills.
- Signing names and key words.
- The basic vocabulary.
- Course participants top 50 signs.
- How best to teach sign.
- Signing songs, stories and nursery rhymes.

Cost: £170 per delegate**Title: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)****Date:** 23 November 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30**Tutors:** Agatina Marchese and Peter Imray

Some suggest that ADHD may affect up to 5% of the school population, yet it is a much misunderstood condition that often attracts negative and unhelpful responses. This course seeks to address the balance and offer real and lasting solutions that will benefit pupils, staff and families.

Course content:

- What is ADHD?
- How it may present itself in the class.
- The likely learning and behavioural consequences of having ADHD.
- The medication issue.
- The effects on other children in the class and in the home.
- Taking a positive slant.
- Practical strategies for dealing with ADHD.
- Case studies and potential solutions to problems presented by children who are known to the course participants.

Cost: £170 per delegate

Title: Autistic Spectrum Disorders and challenging behaviour in the mainstream school

Date: 7 December 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutors: Bozena Marczyk and Rosie Whur

This course examines why children with ASD may exhibit challenging behaviours and offers tried and tested approaches and strategies appropriate to a school setting.

Course content:

- A brief overview of Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASDs).
- How difficulties associated with ASD may affect behaviour.
- Strategies and approaches.
- Materials and resources.
- Case studies.
- An opportunity for course participants to discuss individual pupils from their own schools and arrive at possible solutions to the challenges faced.
- Writing behaviour support plans.

Cost: £170 per delegate

Spring term 2012

Title: Understanding Autistic Spectrum Disorders (including Aspergers Syndrome) in the mainstream school

Date: 18 January 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutors: Bozena Marczyk and Rosie Whur

Specifically aimed at inclusion managers, SENCOs, teachers and teaching assistants working in a mainstream setting, this course offers an intensive introduction to autism. It concentrates on giving essential knowledge of autistic spectrum disorders and offers a solid grounding for all working with those on the spectrum.

Course content:

- An in-depth overview of Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD).
- An in-depth overview of Asperger's Syndrome.
- Inclusive classroom practice.
- Strategies and approaches that work.
- Differentiation and how autism might affect learning.
- An introduction to the problems of sensory impairments and what we might do to counteract their negative effects.
- Positive behaviour systems.
- Materials and resources.

Cost: £170 per delegate

Title: Working in teams: teachers, TAs and other professionals working together

Date: 26 January 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Penny Osborne

The skills required for all those working in teams whether they be teachers, support staff, or other professionals, tend to be learned 'on the job' and are often regarded as a necessary 'rite of passage'. Whilst such skills are being learned, friction between teachers and support staff and other professionals can arise as they seek to reconcile the differences in experience and authority. This course is therefore designed for NQTs, teachers new to working in special schools, TAs and LSAs.

Course content:

- Strategies for working in teams.
- Providing opportunities to discuss individual situations and provide practical solutions to actual problems.
- Exploring ideas around current theory and good practice which can be directly applied to your own classroom situation.
- An exploration of the changing roles of teachers, support staff and other professionals working in special schools.
- Definitions of a team.
- An analysis of common goals and how to achieve these goals.
- A look at the qualities necessary for both teaching and assisting in the class and some ideas around improving relations.
- Opportunities to explore team building options.

Cost: £170 per delegate

Title: Understanding difficulties in play, friendship and social relations for those on the autistic spectrum, including those with Asperger's Syndrome

Date: 29 March 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutors: Bozena Marczyk and Rosie Whur

Given that there is widespread recognition that autism is essentially a social disorder, it is not surprising that the most challenging times will be those that are social in nature for many on the autistic spectrum. This course therefore seeks to explain the problems and explore real solutions that any school can immediately put into practice.

Course content:

- The social interaction of the Triad of Impairments.
- Recognising the problems.
- How neuro-typical children learn to play and form friendships and how that might be different for those on the autistic spectrum.
- Learning to play.
- Learning to interact and build relationships.
- Maintaining friendships and social relations.

Cost: £170 per delegate

Summer term 2012

Title: 'Social Stories' and Autistic Spectrum Disorders

Date: 1 May 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutors: Bozena Marczyk and Rosie Whur

Using 'Social Stories' is a proven way to enable those with an autistic spectrum disorder to make sense of challenging social situations. This practical hands-on course recognises that writing 'Social Stories' is more difficult than it seems and therefore gives plenty of opportunity to practice under expert tutelage.

Course content:

- Why and how 'Social Stories' work.
- Who they are likely to work for.
- The general principles of working through 'Social Stories'.
- Getting the balance right.
- Using 'Social Stories' with other strategies for supporting behavioural change.
- Case studies.
- Opportunities to practice writing 'Social Stories' and advice on ways to improve and/or consolidate upon existing 'Social Stories' written for children known to the course participants.

Cost: £170 per delegate

Voucher Scheme

Savings available through the voucher scheme for schools wishing to send multiple colleagues on courses between September 2011 and July 2012:

Gold = 20 vouchers at £2000 (equivalent of £100.00 per place)

Silver = 10 vouchers at £1250 (equivalent of £125.00 per place)

Bronze = 5 vouchers at £750 (equivalent of £150.00 per place)

Terms and Conditions:

- Vouchers can be used on any one-day courses by different members of staff from the same school between September 2011 and July 2012.
- The full voucher price must be paid in full at the commencement of the agreement.
- In the event of cancellation of any course which a member school has applied to attend for whatever reason, The Schools Network will guarantee free attendance at an equivalent course between September 2011 – July 2012.
- Those in the voucher scheme will not be eligible for a refund in the event of not filling the maximum number of places their scheme entitles them to between September 2011 and July 2012.*

*in exceptional circumstances we may agree to unused vouchers being redeemed in the first term of the new academic year.

For further information, please contact Jessica Devonald, London Project Officer on jessica.devonald@ssatrust.org.uk or 0207 802 0722.

About our principal trainers

Peter Imray has been teaching children and adults with severe and profound learning difficulties for over 25 years and has been Head of The Bridge Training and Consultancy Centre since its inception in 1997. His book *Turning the Tables on Challenging Behaviour* was published by Routledge in 2008.

Bozena Marczyk has worked in the field of autism for over 30 years. She has considerable experience of teaching pupils and students with Autistic Spectrum Disorders across all key stages and abilities. Bozena is currently Head of The Bridge Outreach Service, which supports children with ASDs in mainstream settings within Islington.

Clare Ward trained as a Speech and Language Therapist and has been working with children and adults with autism and learning disabilities, and their carers for over 15 years. She has worked in Health, Social Services and Education with a variety of other professionals and is currently working as a free-lance consultant and Makaton Trainer.

Rosie Whur is an experienced mainstream teacher and has worked as a SENCO in a large primary school. She was involved in setting up a resource base for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorders in Brighton and Hove. Rosie currently works at The Bridge School where she has responsibility for inclusion and is part of The Bridge Outreach Service.

'The tutor was off the scale. Brilliant!'

Delegate from May 2011 'Developing a PMLD Curriculum for the 21st Century' course.

'Confident delivery, able to answer all questions, very thought provoking.'

Delegate from April 2010 'Challenging Behaviour' course.

'I feel great and confident with renewed energy to go back to my school.'

Delegate from May 2011 'Developing a PMLD curriculum for the 21st Century' course.

How to book

All courses will take place at The Bridge School,
251 Hungerford Road, London N7 9LD.

To book your place, please visit the events
pages of our website and search by month, and/
or event code: www.ssatrust.org.uk.

For more information on any of the courses
please contact Jessica Devonald:
Jessica.devonald@ssatrust.org.uk
or 0207 802 0722.

*'Refreshing to see a meaningful approach to teaching and learning
for PMLD...'*

Delegate from May 2011 'A PMLD Curriculum for the 21st Century' course.

'Excellent course – extremely informative and inspiring...'

Delegate from May 2011 'Sensory issues for children with ASD' course.



The Schools Network

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