



Training@TheBridge

SEN course listing

September 2011 – July 2012

Training for those working in **special 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:

- A PMLD curriculum for the 21st Century and an SLD curriculum for the 21st Century.
- Assessing pupil progress and target setting.
- Developing thinking and problem solving skills in the special needs class.
- Teaching play as an essential part of the curriculum in the special needs class.
- Teaching Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) in the special needs class.
- An introduction to challenging behaviour in the special needs classroom.
- Autistic Spectrum Disorders and challenging behaviour in the special needs class.

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.

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Autumn term 2011

Title: Post Graduate Certificate in Special Educational Needs (PGC SEN)

Date: Registration during the week beginning 24 September 2012

Timings: 15.00 – 18.00 on successive Mondays over 12 weeks for the first module and thereafter two or three tutorials per module or as needed

Tutors: Penny Barratt, Peter Imray

Course content:

This is a three module course spread over three semesters (18 months). Module 1 will be delivered through 12 twilight sessions; Modules 2 and 3 involve some group and individual tuition but are primarily based on supported study in an area of the participant's interest. Each module carries 20 Level M CAT points which can be used towards a Masters degree qualification.

Module one includes study on working with teaching assistants; working in a multi-disciplinary classroom; historical models of SEN provision; inclusion; curriculum provision for students with SEN; autistic spectrum disorders; severe learning difficulties; profound and multiple learning difficulties; moderate learning difficulties; emotional, social and behavioural difficulties; communication and interaction; challenging behaviour.

Module two involves studying an area of interest in the field of special educational needs in greater depth.

Module three involves an opportunity to conduct practitioner research on an area of interest within the field of special educational needs.

Cost: £450 per module, £1350 for the full PG Certificate



Title: Introduction to Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD)

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

Tutors: Peter Imray and Ros Blackburn

This two-day course offers an intensive introduction to autism and concentrates on giving a solid grounding in knowledge of autistic spectrum disorders.

Course content:

- Defining autism – the Triad of Impairments.
- An introduction to the problems of sensory impairments and what we might do to counteract their negative effects.
- Briefly exploring the effectiveness of teaching strategies such as TEACCH and PECS.
- An introduction to Social Stories.
- How autism might affect learning.
- Looking at the range of learning difficulties that might be found alongside autism.
- Logically Illogical - a fascinating morning with Ros Blackburn, herself diagnosed as autistic, who freely discusses her own views on autism and what it is like to be autistic.
- Effective classroom strategies for all ability levels.
- An introduction to challenging behaviour and autism.

Cost: £270 (member school), £295 (non-member school)

Title: Introduction to Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD)

Date: 11 October 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Peter Imray

A one-day introductory course ideally suitable for teachers and TAs new to learning difficulties and those more experienced seeking to brush up on their knowledge.

Course content:

- A detailed definition of SLD and a comparison with PMLD.
- A brief discussion on the dual diagnosis of ASD and SLD.
- How those with severe learning difficulties learn and how we might teach them.
- Exploring how teaching and learning styles might be different from conventionally developing children.
- Age appropriateness.
- Literacy, numeracy and the SLD pupil.
- Process based learning and skills based learning.
- Exploring what a 21st Century curriculum might look like for those with severe learning difficulties.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Introduction to Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD)

Date: 12 October 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Peter Imray

This practical and hands-on course offers an intensive introduction to PMLD and concentrates on what those new to PMLD need to know.

Course content:

- Defining PMLD.
- How conventionally developing children learn.
- How very developmentally young children learn and how this differs from typical development.
- The causes of PMLD.
- What affects children from day-to-day.
- How we can affect a difference.
- Exploring the nature of learned helplessness and how we might overcome this.
- Looking at ways of assessing possible motivators and using these as a tool of engagement.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Free Flo

Date: 1 November 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Flo Longhorn

Flo Longhorn is an international speaker and author of many books on multi-sensory approaches to learning, including the seminal 'A Sensory Curriculum for Very Special People' recently republished by Human Horizons. She is the editor of the widely read magazine 'PMLD Link' which features many multi-sensory ideas and approaches to learning. Flo brings along a vast array of materials, presented in the context of interactive learning and as springboards to self-motivated learning.

This is a must attend course for all those working in the fields of profound and multiple learning difficulties.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)



Title: Developing a PMLD curriculum for the 21st Century

Date: 2 November 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Peter Imray

This course seeks to reconcile the seemingly impossible demands of the National Curriculum with the very early developmental levels of children and young people with profound and multiple learning difficulties. It is of direct interest to all those who have an interest in PMLD curriculum development across any and all key stages, whether they be experienced managers and teachers or those new to PMLD.

Course content:

- What Ofsted, QCDA, Every Child Matters and the National Curriculum require.
- Exploring the nature of effective teaching and learning for those with a profound learning difficulty.
- What other schools are doing – the latest ideas around PMLD curriculum development.
- PMLD assessment documents such as Routes for Learning.
- Overcoming the problems of demonstrating progress.
- Writing a base curriculum document.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

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 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Teaching English and communication in the special needs class

Date: 8 November 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Peter Imray

A one-day course designed for all teachers and TAs who are working with those with Severe Learning Difficulties.

Course content:

- Defining the English curriculum for the SLD pupil. A brief discussion of the National Curriculum. How much is the SLD curriculum defined by this and how relevant is it to our learners?
- What are the problems in communication for those with SLD?
- Creating opportunities for communication.
- The growth of early literacy – from emergent skills to fluent readers.
- Using high tech communication aids – a brief overview of the possible aids available; their advantages and disadvantages.
- Using low tech communication aids – especially looking at signing and symbols.
- Speaking and listening versus reading and writing. How to square the circle.
- Storytelling and drama within the SLD English curriculum – a detailed exploration.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Introduction to challenging behaviour in the special needs classroom

Date: 14 November 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Peter Imray

A one-day introductory course looking at simple and practical solutions to challenging behaviour across all age ranges (from 2 to 92) and all levels of ability from profound to moderate learning difficulties.

Course content:

- Fundamental principles relating to positive responses to challenging behavior.
- The Magnificent Seven – seven key words that will guide you through the normal barriers to successful change.
- Short term and long term strategies.
- Writing a strength/needs chart.
- Writing a Behaviour Support Programme.
- Case studies of real children, young people and adults.
- Lots of opportunity to discuss solutions to problems course participants might have in their own workplace or home.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Teaching Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) in the special needs class

Date: 15 November 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutors: Tom Andrews and Peter Imray

This course tackles head-on the issues around sexuality and learning difficulties and seeks to give practical advice on both what you should be teaching and how you should be teaching it.

Course content:

- Background to current thinking on SRE.
- Some philosophical questions to answer. A discussion around what we want an SRE curriculum to provide from the perspective of (i) pupils (ii) staff and (iii) parents.
- The importance of shared sexual knowledge.
- The difficulties of teaching SRE to those with severe/profound learning difficulties and/or autism.
- Taking a differentiated approach to learning.
- What do we have to teach? Ofsted, QCDA and the law.
- The central role of adults in the capacities of teachers, counsellors, protectors, interveners and empowerers.
- Devising a core SRE curriculum.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Teaching maths in the special needs class

Date: 22 November 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutors: Mandy Hadfield and Peter Imray

This course seeks to (i) broaden our understanding of how those with SLD and PMLD learn, including gaining the acquisition of basic mathematical skills, and to provide the basis for schools' curriculum development; (ii) equate this with the linear developmental model that applies to neuro-typical learners; (iii) assess the possibilities of teaching mathematics through an individualised developmental model that is non-linear and entirely practical.

Course content:

- Defining learning difficulties.
- The development of mathematical concepts.
- The primary/secondary split – exploring the issue.
- Why we teach maths to the SLD learner.
- Teaching maths to the higher functioning learner.
- Looking at research.
- The legal position – looking at what the DfES, Ofsted and QCA suggest we have to cover.
- Practical examples of practical maths.
- Teaching maths to PMLD learners.
- Exploring writing a scheme of work for all key stages and to all developmental levels.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Teaching Religious Education in the special needs class

Date: 29 November 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Peter Imray

This course is designed to provide a basis for schools to devise their own practical multi-faith curriculum document that can be adapted to cover all key stages for both SLD, PMLD – including those who might have an additional autistic diagnosis. It will particularly explore methods of teaching spirituality to SLD and PMLD learners.

Course content:

- Developing both the factual and moral elements of religious stories.
- Separating the spiritual from the earthly dimension. Teaching what we can learn from religion rather than just teaching what we can learn about religion.
- Exploring possible frameworks for the RE curriculum.
- Discussions on how a curriculum document covering all six major world faiths can be adapted for SLD and PMLD through looking at beliefs and practice; holy books; holy people; holy places; festivals; and morality.
- RE and the PMLD learner.
- Advice on compiling a bank of practical resources.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Assessing pupil progress and target setting for those working within the P Scales

Date: 6 December 2011 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Peter Imray

Those who work with pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties will recognise the dilemma between knowing that most will make progress over each key stage and proving such progress. This day is about finding and celebrating ways in which pupils who are working within P Scales and the lower reaches of the Level Indicators actually do make progress, and (most importantly) convincing Ofsted and the other powers that be, that these are legitimate indicators of attainment.

Course content:

- Looking at current assessment tools, including P Scales; the reasons for assessment; the principles of assessment.
- Exploring what we have to teach and how we have to teach it.
- Questioning how we assess progress for those who do not necessarily succeed within the academic model.
- Looking at pupils who are likely to struggle academically; appear to plateau and make no progress for long periods of time; who are stuck in the lower Level indicators or P Scales; who have 'spiky' profiles; who may not make progress through linear development.
- Exploring fractured learning and the plateau problem.
- Looking at alternative teaching and learning models.
- Exploring ideas for qualitative and quantitative assessment and progression outside of P scales.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Spring term 2012

Title: Certificate in Special Educational Needs. Behaviour Management module

Dates: 12 training days spread over two terms. Monday 9 January 2012 to Monday 11 June 2012

Tutors: Various

This course of 60 taught hours duration, is especially suitable for teachers and senior TAs seeking to take on Behaviour Management as a position of responsibility within their schools or colleges, or those wishing to improve their understanding of challenging behaviour. The course aims to provide proficiency in understanding the causes of, and possible remedies for, challenging behaviours in children, young people and adults across the whole range of SEN.

Course content:

- Defining terms.
- Exploring the latest research.
- Analysing the differences in approach as applied to different learners with SLD, PMLD or ASD.
- Observation techniques.
- An analysis of behaviourism, including ABA (Applied Behaviour Analysis) and VBA (Verbal Behaviour Analysis).
- Therapeutic approaches.
- Emotional, social and behavioural difficulties.
- Other conditions likely to affect behaviour such as ADHD, PDA etc.
- Mental health issues.
- Detailed practical guidance in dealing with real every-day issues.
- Provide opportunities to undertake case studies.
- Writing behaviour support programmes through observation and school based study.

Cost: £750 per delegate



Title: Teaching art in the special needs class

Dates: 19 – 20 January 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Micaela Beatson

This innovative and exciting course looks at numerous creative ideas as a means of extending pupils' and students' working at an early developmental level. This is a practical, hands-on introductory course for artists and non-artists alike.

Course content:

- What children, young people and adults with learning difficulties can do.
- Art with paint – the importance of colour; includes silk-screen printing and tie-dye printing.
- Art without paint – includes weaving; sculpture and working with clay.
- Other practical and simple-to-teach ideas.
- How to have lots of fun in the classroom.

Cost: £270 (member school), £295 (non-member school)

Title: Teaching drama and poetry in the special needs class

Date: 24 January 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutors: Keith Park and Peter Imray

There is no doubt that the creative arts is a vital element of the 21st special needs curriculum and essential components of this are both drama and poetry. A key part of the English curriculum, both areas can be used not only to extend pupils' experience and understanding of language but also as a consolidator of emotional literacy.

Course content:

- Drama and poetry's relationship to play.
- Using language with those who do not speak.
- Teaching empathy and the understanding of emotions through drama and poetry.
- Appropriate works to cover all ages from nursery to post 19.
- Adapting the classics.
- Using call and response as a central means to engagement.
- Drama and poetry to take with you to use in the classroom.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

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 'right of passage'. Whilst such skills are being learned however, considerable 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 each other's situations and provide practical solutions to actual problems.
- Exploring ideas around current theory and good practice which can be directly applied to their 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 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Teaching ICT in the special needs class

Date: 27 January 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Sally Paveley

This course aims to offer a sound basic grounding of knowledge, with special emphasis on imparting good practice which can then be directly applied to the classroom or work situation.

Course content:

- Simple ICT tools to consolidate learning.
- Exploring websites that will interest, engage and teach pupils and students of all ages and all abilities.
- New and innovative ways of using interactive whiteboards.
- Using symbols to create communication resources.
- Working with images, photos and video for recording and creativity.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Teaching music in the special needs class

Date: 7 February 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutors: Sue Simmonds (Soundabout) and Mark Hanson

This workshop provides an introduction to the concept of using sound and music as a tool for creative communication. It is ideal for members of staff who are just beginning to develop their roles teaching or supporting young people with learning difficulties, and will introduce the principals of Soundabout along with musical interaction as proven communicative techniques.

Course content:

- An introduction to the concept of creative communication and its impact on relationships and learning.
- Practical and easy to use techniques that can be immediately introduced into the school environment.
- The chance to gain hands-on experience with specialist instrumental tools such as resonance boards, Soundbeam™ and other technologies.
- Musical Interaction – the theory behind the practice along with key ways of engaging learners.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Makaton Training – Foundation stage

Dates: 21 and 28 February 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Clare Ward

The Foundation two-day workshop provides a detailed introduction to the Makaton vocabulary, signs and symbols from stages 1-4 and additional vocabulary is taught during practical sessions. This course is recommended for professionals who require a more detailed knowledge and skill and who wish to be able to develop the communication skills of others. It is also an essential part of entry criteria for Makaton regional tutor training. At the end of the foundation workshop, participants should be able to use the early stages of the Makaton vocabulary with children, students and service users.

Course content:

- Current research into sign use.
- Symbols design themes.
- The use and purpose of Makaton.
- An overview of alternative systems of communication.
- Practical sessions are supported by lectures that look in-depth at the users' needs.
- How to adapt communication to suit.
- How to identify and create opportunities through Makaton for the user to develop his or her communication skills and be better integrated into the community.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Rebound Therapy

Dates: 1 – 2 March 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 17.30

Tutor: Chris Rollings

Rebound Therapy is the therapeutic use of a trampoline to develop and promote motor skills, body awareness, balance, co-ordination and communication. It is designed to accommodate pupils' individual abilities and disabilities, whilst drawing upon their previous experience and likes and dislikes. Improved health and fitness and greater independence are encouraged, whilst fun, enjoyment and the opportunity to succeed are of paramount importance. Rebound Therapy is accessible to pupils with a range of special educational needs such as specific physical difficulties, autistic spectrum disorders, learning difficulties, challenging behaviour, and/or co-ordination problems.

Rebound Therapy is a wide-ranging two-day course, encompassing a variety of professional disciplines and is ideal for all those involved in the caring professions. Completion of the course qualifies the course participant to work with SEN pupils on a trampoline without supervision.

Course content:

- The physical properties of the trampoline.
- The physiological effects on pupils.
- The therapeutic effects on pupils.
- Appraisal of personal skills.
- Use of development and award programmes.
- Programmes for defined special needs.
- Health and safety.
- Problem solving – practical simulations.

Cost: £270 (member school), £295 (non-member school)

Title: Autistic Spectrum Disorders and challenging behaviour in the special needs class

Date: 28 February 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 17.30

Tutors: Agatina Marchese and Peter Imray

Looking at simple and practical solutions to resolve challenging behaviours in pupils with autistic spectrum disorders and learning difficulties.

Course content:

- Fundamental principles relating to positive responses to challenging behavior.
- Knowing the autistic child.
- Working with the autism.
- Sensory issues.
- Writing a strength/needs chart.
- Writing a Behaviour Support Programme.
- Case studies of real children, young people and adults.
- Lots of opportunity to discuss solutions to problems course participants might have in their own workplace or home.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Formulating an SLD curriculum for the 21st Century

Date: 6 March 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Peter Imray

This course seeks to reconcile the seemingly impossible demands of the National Curriculum with the early developmental levels of children and young people with severe learning difficulties. It is of direct interest to all those who have an interest in SLD curriculum development across any and all key stages, whether they be experienced managers and teachers or those new to SLD.

Course content:

- What Ofsted, QCDA, 'Every Child Matters' and the National Curriculum require.
- Exploring the nature of effective teaching and learning for those with a severe learning difficulty.
- What needs to be taught and what can be taught.
- Assessing progress and attainment for those with SLD.
- Skills based and process based teaching and learning.
- Looking at a broad and balanced curriculum.
- Writing a base curriculum document.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Developing thinking and problem solving skills in the special needs class

Date: 20 March 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Peter Imray

Metacognition – thinking about thinking – is attracting considerable interest in academic circles and is a major force behind such recent initiatives as the Rose Report. Clearly however, and by definition, those with severe learning difficulties will have extreme difficulties in thinking and problem solving. This day is set up to establish why that is so and even more importantly, what we might do about it. It is a mixture of whole and small group discussion, exchanging ideas, looking at practical activities, and bringing thinking and problem solving planning into our everyday teaching.

Course content:

- How children learn.
- How children with learning difficulties learn.
- How thinking comes into learning.
- Current thinking about thinking – what are QCDA and the DCSF saying about it?
- Learned helplessness.
- The difficulties in thinking and problem solving for those with learning difficulties and the strategies that we might be able to teach.
- Setting up a 'thinking and problem solving' curriculum for children with severe learning difficulties.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Summer term 2012

Title: Sensory processing difficulties and solutions

Dates: 24 April 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

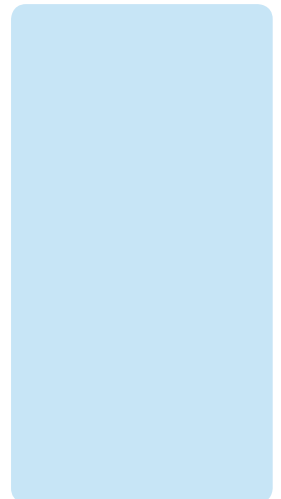
Tutor: Lesley Platts

This course is for those who work with children (or adults) who have an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) with or without an additional learning disability and/or who work with children or adults with a Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulty (PMLD).

Course content:

- Sensory experiences described by people with ASD, using video and first-person accounts.
- A review of the seven senses and how we use them.
- Sensory overload – what it feels like and what we can do about it.
- Stages of processing.
- The major sensory systems.
- How experiences might be different for those with a profound and multiple learning difficulty.
- The undersensitive and oversensitive child – how we might recognise these and what we can do to help.
- Video analysis to develop observation skills.
- Experiential sensory activities.
- A review of sensory approaches.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)



Title: Using massage as a positive educational tool in the SLD/PMLD classroom

Date: 25 April 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Kathryn Crosby

Teachers have found that regular use of professionally directed massage can have positive and wide reaching benefits in the classroom, so that the classroom is quieter; children are happier; children can focus and concentrate for longer; self esteem improves and children are less stressed. Besides this massage is socially inclusive and massage is fun. This is a hands-on and active course and course participants are advised to dress appropriately.

Course content:

- Philosophy and history of massage.
- Nervous system.
- Hormones – oxytocin, adrenaline, cortisol.
- Hyperactivity, ADHD.
- Touch issues for children with special needs.
- Strokes and routines to use in the classroom.
- Cross-curricular links.
- Every Child Matters – (ECM) related objectives.
- Social and Emotional aspects of Learning (SEAL).
- Child protection.
- Touch games.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Exploring ICT and creativity in the special needs class

Date: 27 April 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Sally Paveley

This is a day jam-packed with practical ideas about how you can use the technology found in most classrooms with your pupils in creative and motivating ways which reflect the digital age we live in. We will focus on working with sound, images and animation to create media ready for use in class or uploading to your school website or MLE to share with a wider world. It is preferable that staff coming on this course have good basic ICT skills.

Course content:

- Capturing and recording sound.
- Creating a podcast.
- Animating still images.
- Combining sound and images

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Teaching play as part of the curriculum in the special needs class

Date: 2 May 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Peter Imray

Neuro-typical children learn so many basic social and life skills just through the process of playing with co-operatively with other children, whereas such experiences and learning opportunities are very likely to pass children with learning difficulties by, especially if the child is on the autistic spectrum. We can however compensate for this loss through promoting and facilitating play, irrespective of the age or developmental level of the child.

Course content:

- The functions of play – why it is important.
- How play skills develop in the conventionally developing child and why that is different for the child with learning difficulties and/or autism.
- Why children with learning difficulties will be delayed in acquiring play skills.
- Relating play to the Triad of Impairments and sensory Impairments.
- Filling in the gaps – how we can practically promote play to all those with learning difficulties and/or autism across all ability levels and ages.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Structured teaching in the ASD classroom

Dates: 8 – 9 May 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Veronica Armson

Structured teaching, (a method developed by the TEACCH Program), is a widely used strategy to support the particular needs of people with ASD. This two-day practical and hands-on course, is taught by certified members of a TEACCH Training Team with extensive experience of working with young people with learning difficulties and ASD.

Course content:

- Developing awareness of the impact of ASD on people's learning.
- The principal elements of the approach (schedules, work systems, task structure, environmental arrangements and communication systems).
- Providing practical advice on using a structured teaching approach.
- Examples drawn from both classroom and home-based applications.
- Enabling you to design and develop systems during practical sessions.

Cost: £270 (member school), £295 (non-member school)

Title: Transforming speaking and listening through storytelling

Dates: 15 May 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Nicola Grove and Peter Imray

Nicola Grove, author of *The Big Book of Storysharing*, explores how we can encourage pupils not only to tell stories, but even more importantly, to be able to communicate to others about the things and events that are most important to them.

Course content:

- How storytelling helps communication.
- How to make a good story.
- How to help your pupils listen to stories.
- How to help your pupils tell stories.
- Telling a story with nonverbal pupils.
- How to assess progress.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

Title: Makaton Training – Enhancement stage

Dates: 15, 22 and 29 May 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Clare Ward

The Enhancement three-day workshop provides a detailed follow-on to the Makaton Foundation Stage, which must be successfully completed before enrollment. This Enhancement workshop concentrates on improving and developing participants' own signing skills and translation skills using signs and symbols. Signs and symbols for stages 5-8 are taught. Practical sessions are supported by lectures that look in-depth at the users' needs, how to adapt communication to suit, and how to identify and create opportunities through Makaton for the user to develop his or her communication skills and be better integrated into the community. It is also an essential final part of entry criteria for Makaton Regional Tutor Training.

Cost: £350 (member school), £375 (non-member school)



Title: Making the most of your sensory room

Dates: 17 May 2012 **Timings:** Registration 09.00 Course 09.30 – 15.30

Tutor: Richard Hirstwood

Most special schools have their own sensory room, often costing many thousands of pounds. You may already have the equipment, or you may be just planning to purchase some. What do you do with it? How do you make it appropriate? Is the room a place where we go in, turn the lights off and listen to dolphins and panpipes whilst watching 60's liquid wheels running around the wall. Richard Hirstwood, an acknowledged expert in this field, has the answer to this and much more. This is a hands-on and entirely practical course with detailed exploration of the equipment taking up much of the day.

Course content:

- Familiarisation session.
- The Multi-Sensory Room (MSR) or studio.
- Studying the uses of the multi sensory equipment, from relaxation and stimulation to communication.
- Setting aims and objectives and assessment in the MSR.
- Introduction to the equipment.
- Sensory issues – considerations on a sensory loss or a dual sensory impairment and the implications of this in relation to the MSR.

Cost: £170 (member school), £195 (non-member school)

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

Penny Barrett is the co-author of *Developing Pupils' Social Communication Skills*, published by David Fulton in 2003. She has over 25 years experience teaching in both the UK and USA. Penny is Executive Headteacher of The Bridge School and completed her doctorate at the University of Nottingham in the field of School Improvement.

Mandy Hadfield is a teacher of severe learning difficulties of some 30 years standing. Mandy is Deputy Head at The Bridge and carries responsibility for our secondary school site. A true expert in the field, Mandy operates within the classroom and also advises Islington's outreach team on all matters relating to SLD.

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 Marcyk has worked in the field of autism for over 30 years with 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.

Agatina Marchese has taught in many primary schools, and was a class teacher at the Tavistock Children's Day Unit. Agatina is member of the extended leadership team at The Bridge School. She carries responsibility for leading the in-school behaviour team. Also a Team Teach trainer, and directly involved in staff wellbeing including mentoring and coaching.

Sally Paveley is an experienced teacher and established trainer specialising in the use of ICT to support pupils who have SEN. Sally has most recently been involved in setting up a website for schools to share whiteboard resources they have created – The Plasma Screen & Whiteboard Room at www.whiteboardroom.org.uk.

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.

'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.



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