Elklan
Training to Support Children's
Language and Learning

Communication and Language Support for Autistic Pupils

(10 week course)

Elklan courses are externally quality assured and accredited through OCN London

A specialist training programme for those of you working with autistic pupils and/or pupils with social communication needs.

It is suitable for those of you who work in mainstream, special schools and specialist units and will empower you to develop the communication skills of pupils who need support to develop their language in a social context.

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Communication and Language Support for Autistic Pupils

This updated evidence-based course provides you with theoretical knowledge and an abundance of practical skills and ideas to support autistic pupils and/or individuals with social communication needs. The course uses interactive teaching methods, practical activities, videos and group discussion to engage you and support your learning. The course consists of 10 weekly sessions each lasting two hours and can be run as a 3-day intensive or via blended e-learning. Non-accredited e-learning sessions with no webinar support are also available.

What does this course teach?

1. **What is communication and where does ASD fit?**
   - Identify the processes involved in communication
   - Understand the diagnostic criteria of ASD and the impact communication needs have on learning and social development.

2. **Sensory Integration**
   - Explore the sensory needs experienced by autistic individuals
   - Learn how to identify different sensory patterns and strategies to support individuals who present with different sensory profiles.

3. **Understanding N.V.C, developing attention and using structure effectively**
   - Identify nonverbal communication
   - Understand what is meant by visual and physical structure and why it is important
   - Learn about the development of attention
   - Explore ways of adding physical structure and schedules to the environment.

4. **Using visuals**
   - Use a wide range of visual supports in the learning setting
   - Understand how memory develops and learn how to use Mind Maps™.

5. **Developing Expressive Language Skills**
   - Develop activities to facilitate the learning of descriptive vocabulary with an emphasis on emotional vocabulary
   - Learn strategies to support development of storytelling and writing.

6. **Understanding Beyond Simple Sentences (Blank Language Scheme)**
   - Present a language scheme model which supports verbal reasoning skills, including why and how questions, inferences, sequencing, predicting
   - Understand the relevance of this model to the autistic pupil.

7. **Developing Interaction**
   - An introduction to pragmatic language skills
   - Learn how to use evidence-based interaction strategies and how to promote opportunities for positive social interaction
   - Understand what is meant by 'the theory of mind'
   - Understand the importance of Double Empathy.

8. **Developing Pragmatic Skills**
   - Develop a further understanding of pragmatic language skills
   - Explore strategies to support pupils with pragmatic language needs
   - Learn practical ideas on how to facilitate opportunities for paired/ group interaction.

9. **Behaviour is communication**
   - Understand that individuals communicate through their behaviour
   - Understand why communication needs might lead to a behaviour of concern.
   - Reflect on learning across the course and apply this learning to a positive approach to supporting behaviour.

10. **Making sense of it all**
    - Present evidence of applying knowledge within the school environment.

" **I am delighted that Elklan have redesigned their course to encompass the principles of Neurodiversity. A special thanks to the tutor who was an expert in rolling out neuroaffirmative principles and applying these to practice and examples.** "

Available as Face to Face + e learning