

Understanding Autism

Autism is ten times more diagnosed today than it was 20 years ago. The number of reported cases has increased dramatically in the 1990s and early 2000. Most recent reviews tend to estimate a prevalence of 1-2 persons per 100. The increase in figures has largely been attributed to changes in diagnostic practices, referral patterns, availability of services, age at diagnosis and most importantly a greater public awareness.

Understanding Autism is a one-day training course designed to promote ongoing public awareness of autism in our community. The course provides relevant information on those frequently asked questions such as; what is autism? What are the characteristics of autism? What can I do to support an individual with autism?

The course aims to empower individuals by providing them with an introduction to autism including: the main features associated with ASD, understanding communication, social interaction and imagination issues, the impact of having a diagnosis of autism on the individual and their family and the difficulties encountered by individuals.

Level

Individuals are not required to have had any previous knowledge in this area. The course is intended for those with little or no prior training in autism.

Learning Objectives:

- An introduction to autism
- Thinking about autism and the current body of knowledge
- Contextualising autism and Autistic Spectrum Disorders
- Understanding individuals, across the spectrum
- Appreciating the sensory environment
- Observing the behavioural characteristics of autism
- Exploring useful strategies and approaches to support

Costs

Upon request.